Dragon Knights
Mineko Ohkami
18

Dragon Knights

Written and Illustrated by
Mineko Ohkami

Volume 18

TOKYOPOP®

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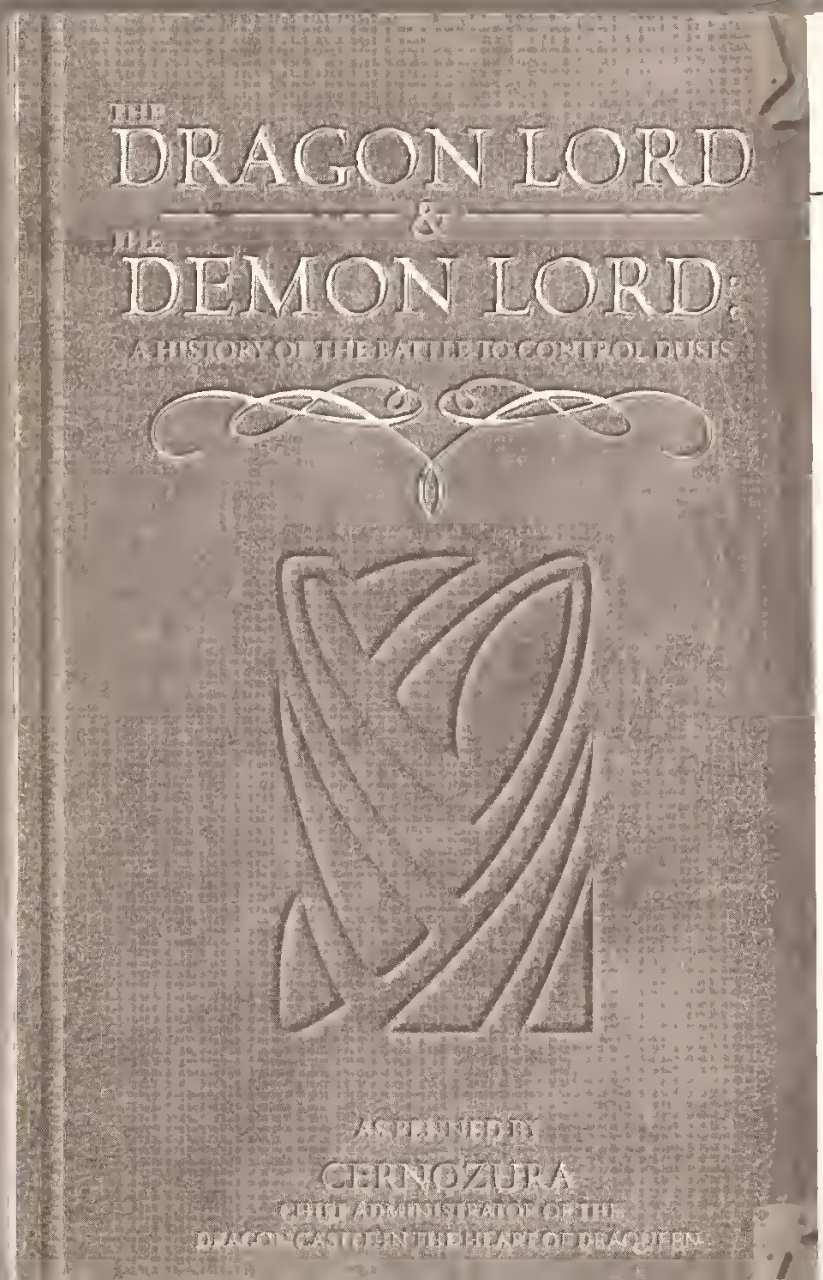

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Created by Mineko Ohkami

Translation - Yuki N. Johnson
English Adaptation - Stephanie Sheh
Copy Editor - Suzanne Waldman
Retouch and Lettering - Junemoon Studios
Production Artist - John Lo
Cover Design - Anna Kernbaum

Editor - Tim Beedle
Digital Imaging Manager - Chris Buford
Pre-Press Manager - Antonio DePietro
Production Managers - Jennifer Miller and Mutsumi Miyazaki
Art Director - Matt Alford
Managing Editor - Jill Freshney
VP of Production - Ron Klamert
Editor-in-Chief - Mike Kiley
President and C.O.O. - John Parker
Publisher and C.E.O. - Stuart Levy

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TOKYOPOP Inc
5900 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 2000
Los Angeles, CA 90036

E-mail: info@TOKYOPOP.com
Come visit us online at www.TOKYOPOP.com

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Lim Kaana, a feisty little deman with a faerie-like appearance, has proven to be a thorn in the Dragon Knights' side since her first appearance. Determined to usurp the power of Vmrawoo from the Dragon Knight of Water, Lim Kanna has struck at Rune where she can do the most damage—through his beloved Tintlet. Splitting the faerie princess into three seporate parts—body, spirit and memory—Lim Kaona nearly destroyed Tintlet entirely in her ottempt to lure Rune into her trap. Fortunately, through the efforts of the Dragon Knights and their allies, two of Tintlet's three divided aspects were rejoined. Now, only Tintlet's memory is lacking, and Rune has made it his quest to restore it. However, in a stronge turn of fate, he has been assisted in this quest by the very person responsible for the split in the first place—Lim Kaana. Proving herself to be above the mindless brutes that one usually finds in Nadil's army, Lim Kanna has shown actual affection for the Dragon Knight of Water. Affection that our Rune is beginning to return in kind. However, it's unlikely such affection will be rewarded by her superior officer, Fedelta.

Merciful heaven! It appears that we are under attack! I know not what current ill befalls us, but by the alarm in the voices I hear now through my casement, I feor it must be serious. Already Tetheus, the Black Dragon Officer and head of our castle's security, has departed for the scene. My Lord and Lady will be in need of my services. I must depart!

The Keeper of the Tame

My name is Cornozura, and I am the chief administrator for the Dragon Castle, Dragueeu, in the heart of Dragoon, the Dragon Kingdom. Within these pages I will attempt to chronicle the events of yesteryear in the hopes that it will in turn offer some future understanding of the chaos that currently befalls us. I feel it's imperative that I record a comprehensive history of the events that have led to this dark hour, for I feor that none will remain to tell the tale. My only hope is that this tome may survive so that future generations will know of the valiance of the Dragon Tribe.

The Rise of the Demon Lord

Our worst fenrs have come to pass. The Demon Lord Nadil has been resurrected, and he has stolen from the bosom of our care the fortuneteller Cesia, who harbors an incredible magic that we have only just begun to witness. In the service of a villain as pernicious as Nadil, Cesia, whether against her will or willingly giving in to the seductive charm of the dreaded Demon Lord, may prove to be the most dangerous threat we've faced.

Into the Abyss

The Dragon Knights have been dispatched to Rainaldo, the kingdom of the Demon Lord, charged with rescuing Cesia. While their journey was not without its share of peril, all three Knights have at last gained entry to Nadil's castle, an ominous-looking fortress that rests atop a dead island surrounded by an ocean of souls. What has transpired since they passed beneath Nadil's terrible gate is unclear to me, but I do know that they are not alone. In addition to the thousands of demons that swear allegience to Nadil, there's at least one who doesn't. Zoma, the small, winged demon, has long been a companion of Cesia. Attempting to bring her the powerful wind staff that was bequeathed to us by the Star Princess, Zoma has joined with Ritchel, a thief who has proven herself to be a loyal ally to Lykouleon, and Ringleys, Ritchel's faerie companion. They, too, have gained entrance to Nadil's palace. Were they but the only ones!

The Villains of Dragon Knights

Nadil

The evil and justly feared Demon Lord Nadil had been slain by the Dragon Lord but his body was recently retrieved and resurrected by his loyal army. Now he once again presides over the Demon Realm, hungry for revenge.

Demon Officers

Shydeman

One of Nadil's generals, Shydeman led the successful attack on Draqueen that brought back the Demon Lord.

Shyrendora

Another general, Shyrendora is sister to Shydeman and also to Telheus, who fights against her as one of the Dragon Officers.

Fedelta

Answering directly to Shydeman, Fedelta has become one of the most vicious officers in the Demon Army.

Lady Medicinea

Another officer in Nadil's army, Medicinea has an ongoing rivalry with Fedelta.

Other Enemies

Bierrez

The infamous rogue demon, Bierrez's loyalties lie not with the Demon Lord but with himself.

Saabel

The so-called "Collector of Corpses," Saabel possesses the ability to reanimate the dead into puppets he controls.

Lim Kaana

A feisty little demon charged with stealing Varewoo's power from Rune.

Fellow to the most powerful of Lykouleon's warriors is the Demon Wizard, standing on the front point of all rules. Khart is unbelievably powerful and longs to rule both the Dragon and Demon Realms. Thus far, Khart has focused on defeating Lykouleon, but his only-a matter of time until he sets his sights on Khart as well.

Khart

The Demon Wizard, Khart is small, charismatic and full of stealth. Demons by the hundreds, if not thousands, follow Khart, including spirit.

Garfakey

Khart's human assistant, Garfakey is greedy and malicious. He wishes to become a demon, a desire Khart has encouraged to misuse.

The Heroes of Dragon Knights

Lord Lykouleon

The beloved Dragon Lord Lykouleon is the sovereign ruler of Dragoon. The resources of the Dragon Clan and the might of the Dragon Army are at his command.

Lady Raseleane

Lykouleon's queen, the Lady Raseleane was rendered barren by the Demon Lord and unable to provide Lykouleon with an heir.

Dragon Officers

Harnessing the power of the five Dragon Balls, the Dragon Officers should number five strong, but after the Demon Army's assault on Draqueen, only two officers remain.

Ruwalk

The Yellow Dragon Officer and Secretary of State.

Tetheus

The Black Dragon Officer and Secretary of Security.

Cernozura

The Dragon Castle Administrator, Cernozura is also a self-appointed castle historian.

Dragon Knights

Rath

The Dragon Knight of Fire. Rath is part Yokai and lives for killing demons.

Thatz

The Dragon Knight of Earth, the human Thatz was once a thief, and his love for gold hasn't abated.

Rune

The Dragon Knight of Water, Rune is an elf and has abilities the other two Dragon Knights lack.

Other Allies

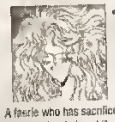
Cesia

A half-demon fortuneteller with the ability to enhance the power of those in close proximity to her.

Zoma

Cesia's demon friend and companion.

Tintlet



A faerie who has sacrificed much for her beloved Rune and her dying race.

Kitchel

Another thief loyal to Lykouleon, Kitchel possesses the powerful Three Treasures and is trying to get them to Draqueen.

Ringleys

A faerie who was rescued from a demon and now accompanies Kitchel.

Delte

Lykouleon's human fortuneteller.

Star Princess

Not much is known about this powerful princess, but she has assisted Rath on several occasions.

Grinfish

The Star Princess's bodyguard. Both the Princess and Grinfish seem to be friendly to Lykouleon's cause.

Nohiro

A human on a mission to save the dying faerie race. Has assisted Rune in the past.

DUSIS
HYUR
Mt. Empnaza
Yuba
GLACIOSA
Bertha Forest
KAINALDIA
Rimune
Czarre
MEMPHIS
Costa Rica
Misty Valley
Miratte
Nadul's Castle
HERMOSA
Faerie Forest
Chantel
Fiori
Fiori Forest
Lyl
KUULTA
Draqueen
DRAGOON
Luwa
Three Pools of Beginning
Cave of the Three Treasures
N
ARINAS

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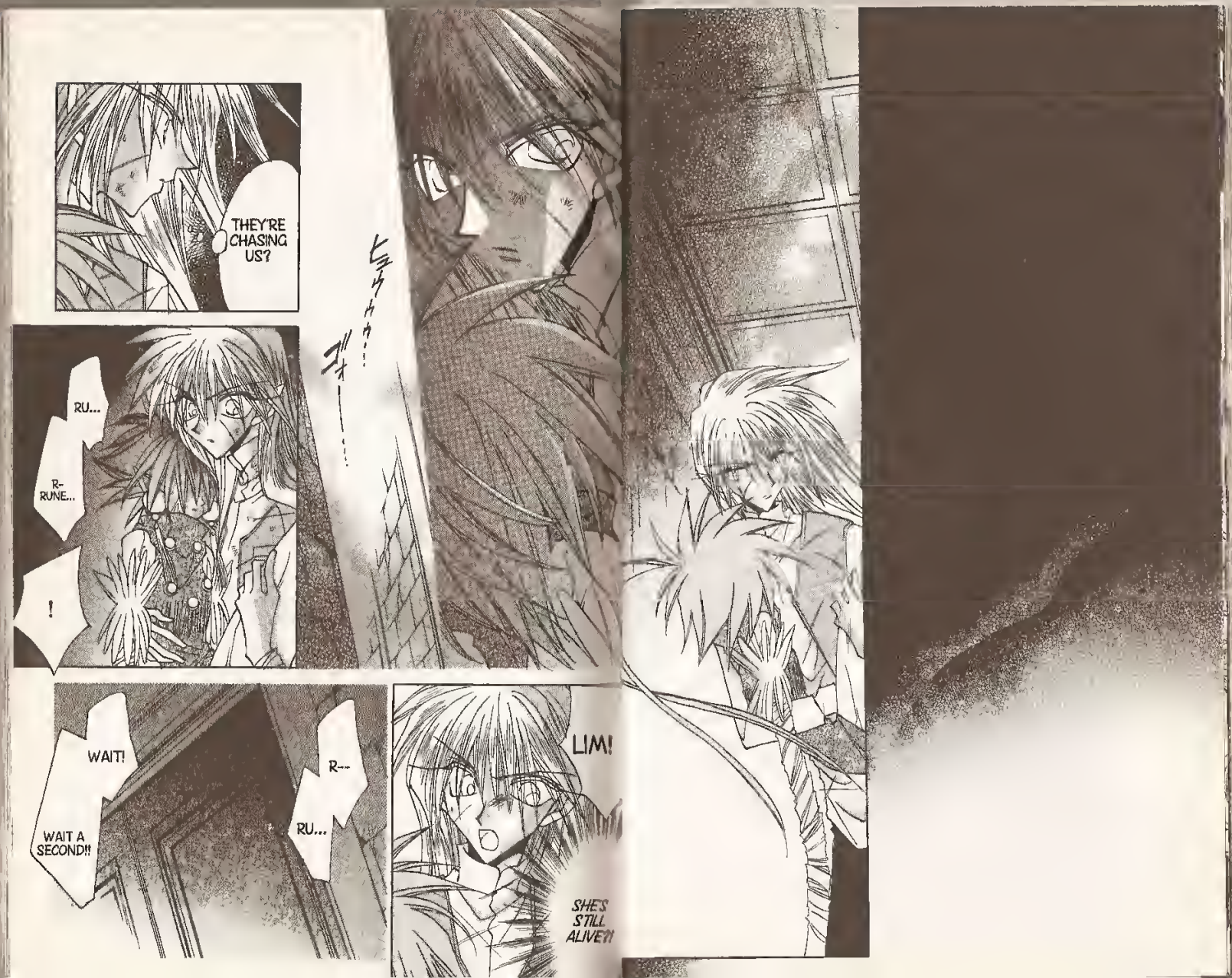
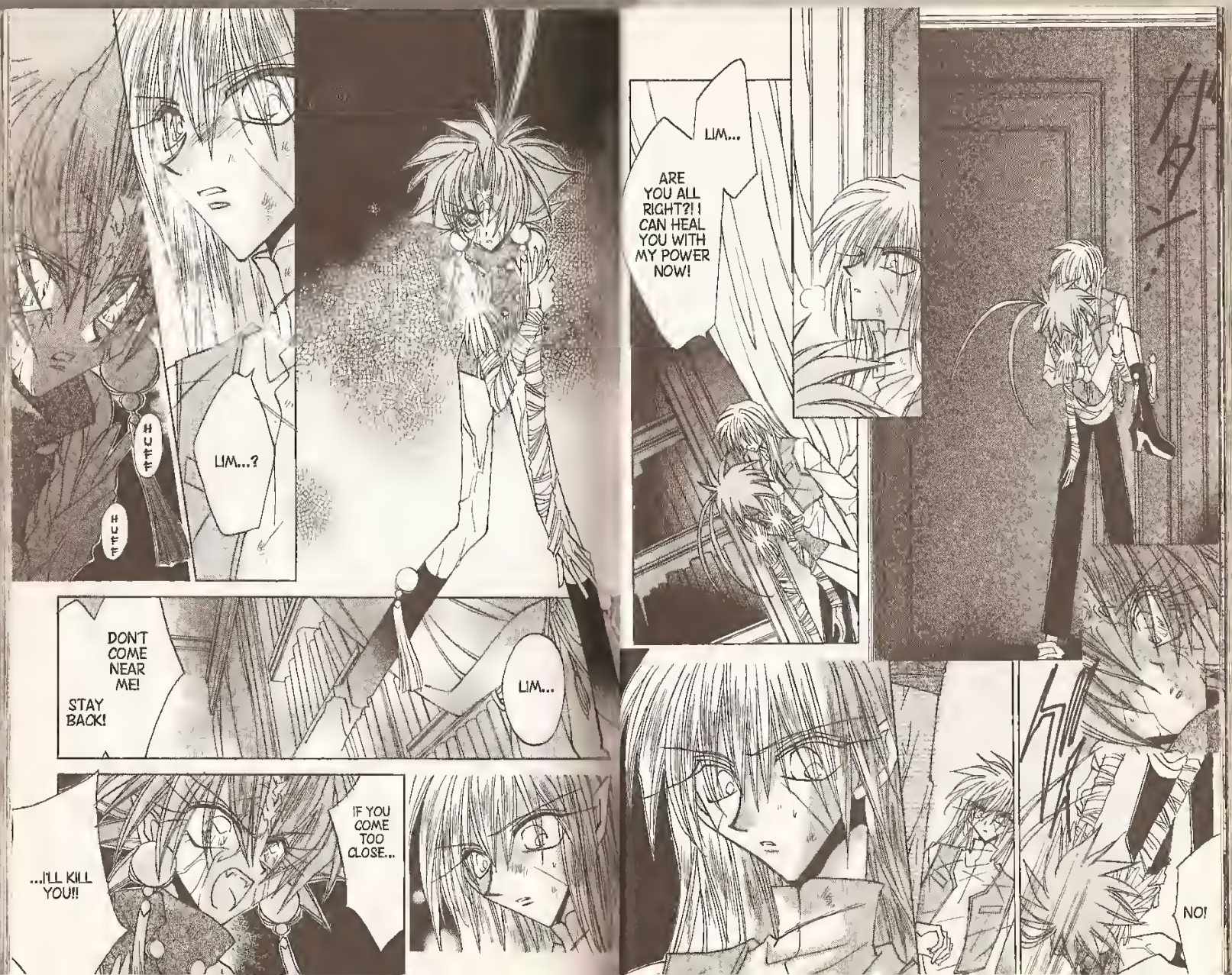
YEESH!
WHAT A BASEMENT! IT'S LIKE A LABYRINTH.
YOU THINK IT'S TRUE WHAT PEOPLE SAY ABOUT THIS PLACE?
THAT THE OUTSIDE'S A FACADE AND NADIL'S ACTUAL CASTLE IS UNDERGROUND?
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THE CASTLE COULD BE HUGE.

DRAGON KNIGHTS
ドラゴン騎士団
A World Away

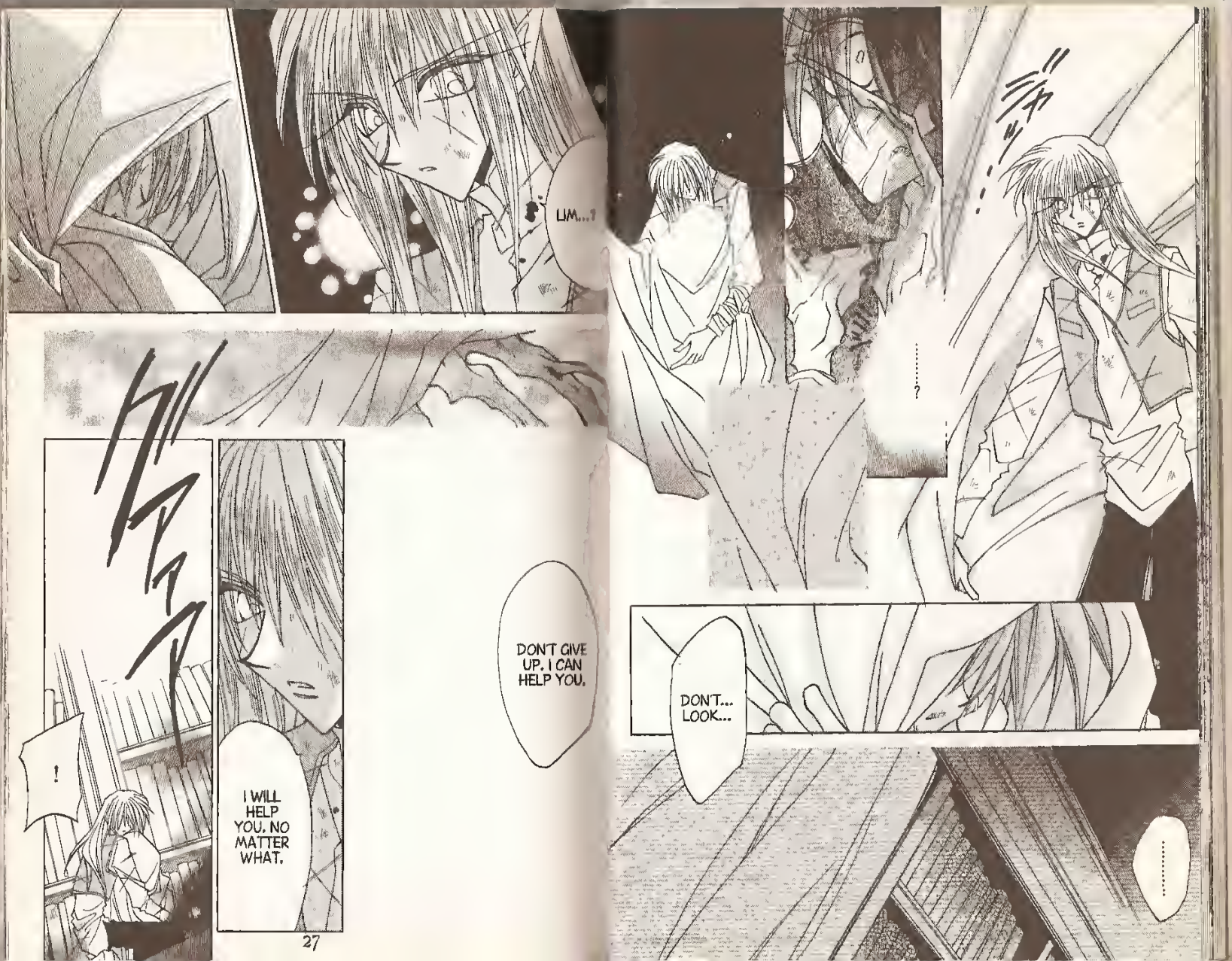
CESIA... IS...
CAN YOU SENSE WHERE CESIA'S BEING HELD, RATH?
RATH...
SHE'S NEAR. I CAN TELL.
I CAN SENSE THE SAME POWER WANTING TO PROTECT ME THAT I FELT BEFORE.
THERE MAY BE A SPIRITUAL SHIELD UP...
...TO PREVENT ANYONE FROM GETTING TO CESIA.
A SHIELD?
THOUGH...
...I'M UNABLE TO PINPOINT HER EXACT LOCATION.


THEY'RE CHASING US?
RU...
R-RUNE...
!
ヒュウウウ!!
ゴォー……
WAIT!
WAIT A SECOND!!
R---
RU...
LIM!
SHE'S STILL ALIVE?!


HUFF
HUFF
LIM...?
DON'T COME NEAR ME! STAY BACK!
LIM...
...I'LL KILL YOU!!
IF YOU COME TOO CLOSE...
LIM...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?! I CAN HEAL YOU WITH MY POWER NOW!
NO!

I CAN'T HELP IT! I WON'T BE MYSELF!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
IT CAN BREAK ME.
ONCE IT DOES... I...
THE THING IN FEDELTA'S HAND...
...WAS SHYDEMAN'S SPIRIT STONE.
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, LIM?

LIM!
I SAID, DON'T LOOK AT ME!
GET OUT OF HERE! I'LL KILL YOU...EVEN IF I DON'T WANT TO!
...I'LL NO LONGER...
WHEN SHYDEMAN'S DEMON POWER HAS F-FULLY INFECTED M-ME...
VERY SOON, I WON'T BE MYSELF NYMORE.
NO!
DON'T LOOK AT ME!
HURK!
URGH!
HUH!
L-LIM...
UH...
AH...


UM...?
.....?
DON'T... LOOK...
.....
DON'T GIVE UP. I CAN HELP YOU.
!
I WILL HELP YOU, NO MATTER WHAT.

ビキビキ ビキ

HA HA HA HA!
LORD NADIL'S POWER MUST BE GROWING.
I CAN FEEL IT.
...BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IT'S EVER BEEN THIS DEAD!
THIS TOWN'S ALWAYS BEEN BORING...
ALL THESE DEAD BODIES... I SWEAR THE PILES OF CORPSES GROW EVERY NIGHT.
AH, CORPSES...
THE MORE I COLLECT, THE STRONGER LORD NADIL'S CASTLE WILL BECOME. OH MAN, IT FEELS GREAT TO DO MY PART FOR A GOOD--ERR, EVIL CAUSE!

HEH HEH HEH...
EWW...

WHO ARE YOU?
.....
FUNNY...
I WAS ABOUT TO ASK YOU THE SAME THING.
AFTER ALL, ONCE THAT OLD BASTARD REVIVES, EVERYTHING WILL BE...

I'M TETHEUS.
AND YES, I AM FROM THE DRAGON CLAN.
A COLLECTOR OF THE DEAD...
...JUST AS I THOUGHT.
ARE YOU PART OF THE DRAGON CLAN?
HEH... TOUCHÉ.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
HEH.
HEH HEH...
FINE. I DON'T MIND GOING FIRST.
I'M SAABEL. I'M FROM THE FOREST OF THE DAMNED, AND I COLLECT DEAD BODIES.

AFTER ALL, NO SANE PERSON WOULD VENTURE OUTSIDE AT A TIME LIKE THIS.
I SUSPECTED AS MUCH.
.....
WELL, THEN...
NOW THAT THE INTRODUCTIONS ARE OUT OF THE WAY, LET'S HAVE SOME FUN. DO YOU LIKE DOLLS?

RRRUMBLE
CRACK
HOW'S OUR LITTLE SACRIFICE DOING?
GIVE HER TO ME.

IDIOT.
DON'T ABUSE YOUR POWER.
.....
TS MY OWER S THE RAGON NIGHT OF ATER. I SE IT AS EE FIT.
?!
!!
HMPH.
NOT FOR LONG. SOON ALL THAT WONDERFUL POWER WILL BE MINE.

SO STRONG...
TWO POWERFUL FORCES.
YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A SHELL--A VESSEL TO STORE THE POWER IN UNTIL I SEE FIT TO TAKE IT FROM YOU.
IN FACT, IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER IF YOU'RE ALIVE OR NOT.
WATER!

UM...
WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
T DOESN'T MATTER WHAT WE THROW-- VERYTHING EEMS TO INK INTO HE MURK.
SINKING STUFF
ハオウウ…
TICK...
THAT...
WHAT, TINTLET?
?
KITCHEL...

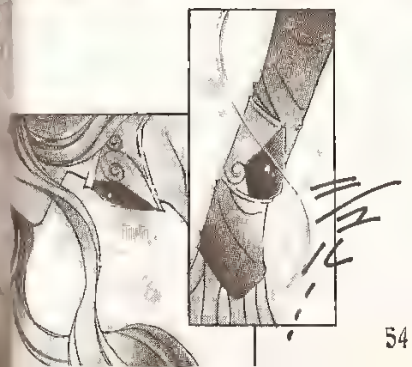
WATER!
EAT HIM.
THAT'S AN ORDER.

I CAN'T LOSE... NOT NOW.
I MUST DO THIS FOR LIM.
THIS THING ZOMA BROUGHT WITH HIM... IT'S SHINING!
HUH?
THAT'S WEIRD.
WHAT'S WRONG?
HAVE YOU EXHAUSTED YOUR POWER SUPPLY?
IF I CONCENTRATE, I KNOW I CAN RELEASE THIS POWER.
DAMN!
THERE'S NO WAY OUT.

TINTLET? WHAT ARE YOU DOING? ZOMA LEFT THIS WITH ME!
I can't give it to you!
let go! since when have you taken up thievery?!
KITCHEL!!
I'm not trying to rob you!
YOU'RE NOT? WELL, IT WOULD'VE MADE THINGS MORE INTERESTING.
IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT. THIS STICK...
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
I THINK I KNOW WHAT IT IS!
.....!
WHAT ABOUT IT?
ITS SHINING.
OH...
MY POWER...
SOME-ONE'S SUMMON-ING IT.

NO!

I WON'T GIVE MY POWER TO NADIL.



THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE MORE DESERVING OF IT!

.....
DID YOU HEAR THAT? IT CAME FROM OVER THERE.
HEY!
WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU?!
RATH?!

IF THEY ARE...
KITCHEL!
THEY MAY BE TRYING TO SUMMON THIS.
HUH?
SUMMON?
...THEN WE CAN NEVER...
...LET THIS GO.

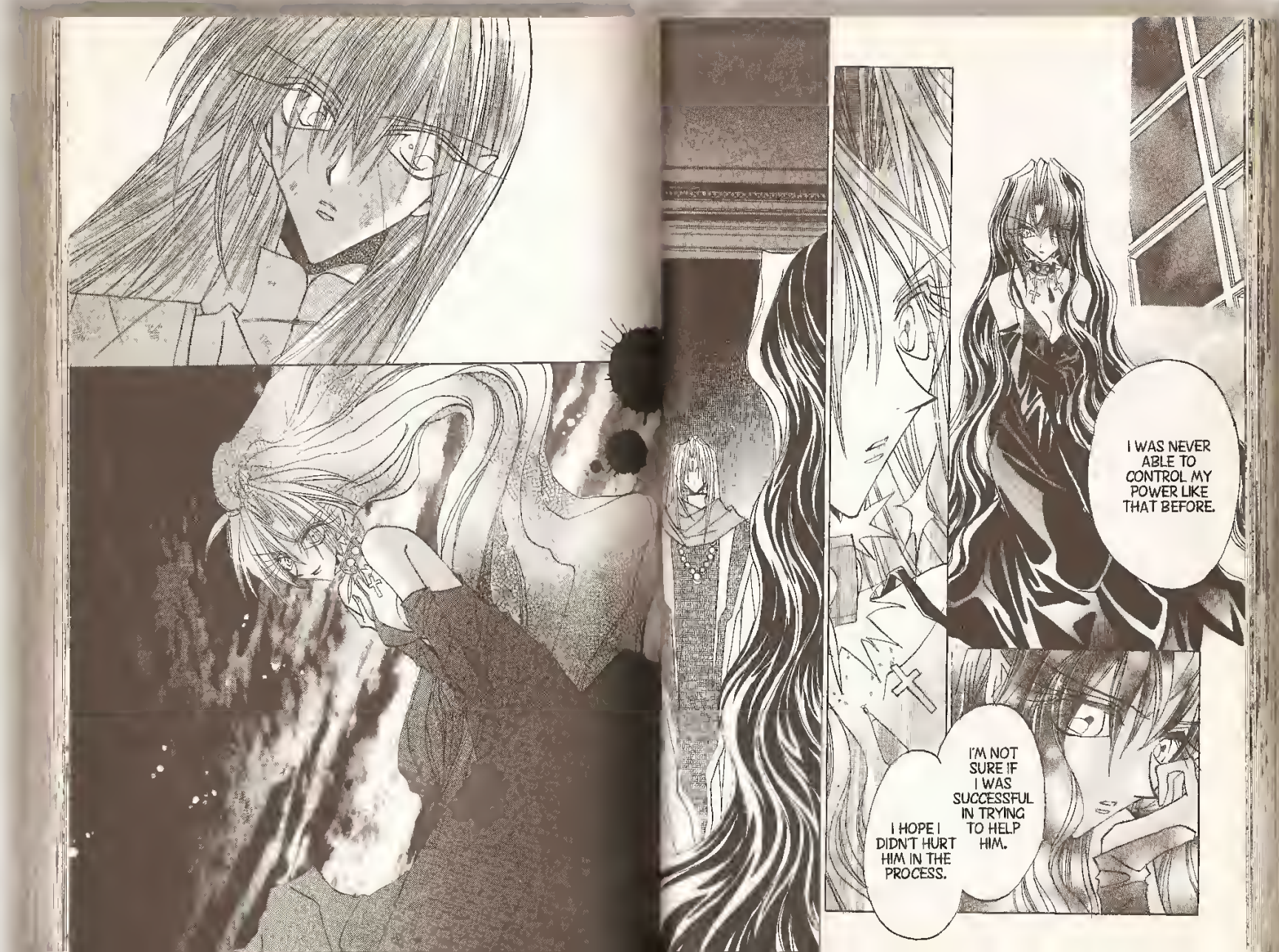
CESIA...
WHAT IF THE STICK'S DANGEROUS?
NO! WAIT!

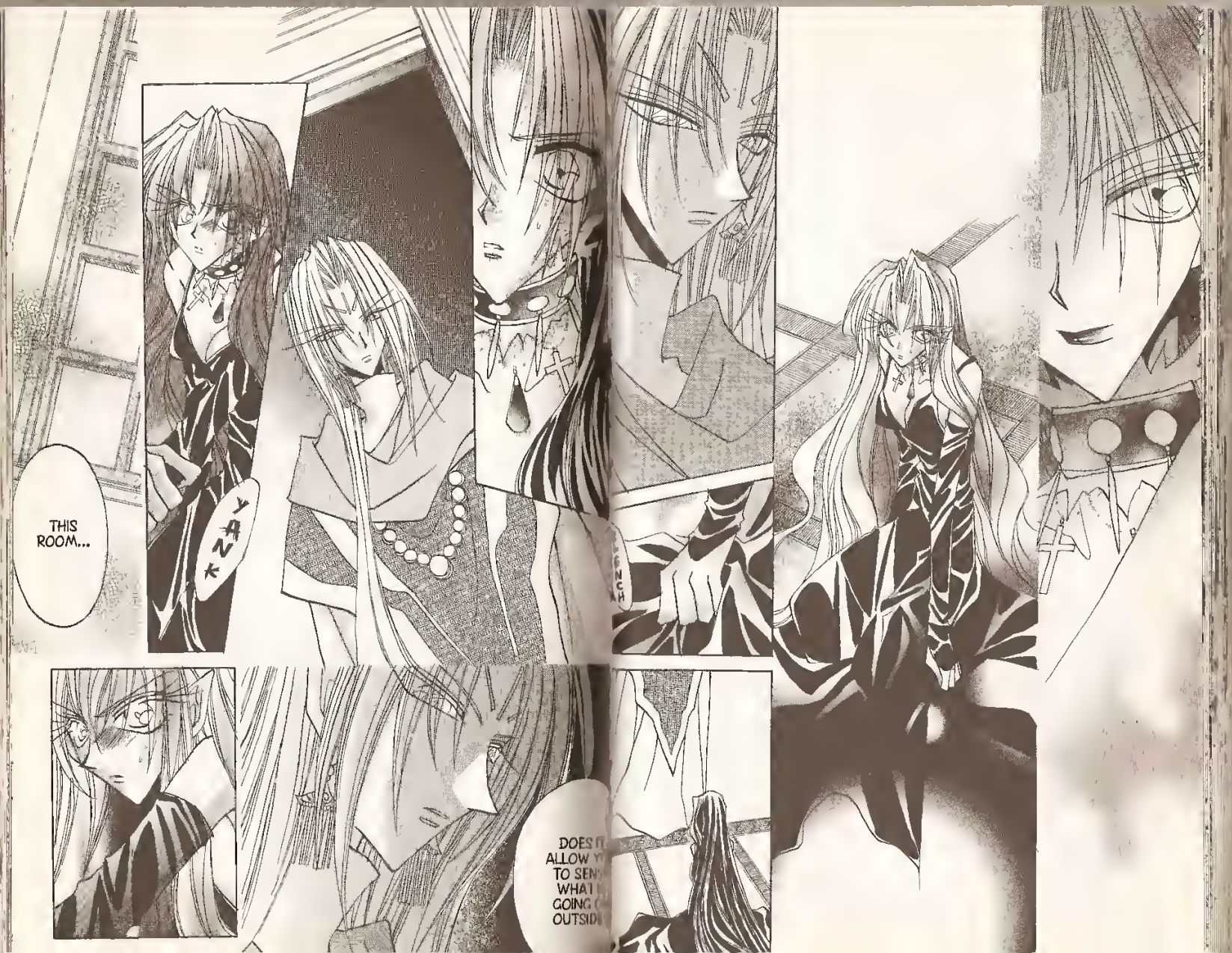
!?
UGH!
SCUTHUNG

AGH...
!!
WHAT IS THIS? WHAT'S HAPPENING?!
!!

THIS ISN'T GOOD.
DAMN
!!
WHO'S DOING THIS?!
THAT POWER...
HUH?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
THIS ISN'T MY POWER!

HERE...
THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME I COULD ACTUALLY GIVE MY POWER TO SOMEONE.
THIS PLACE
TEEMIN
WITH
DEMONI
POWER
TWIT
KU
SS

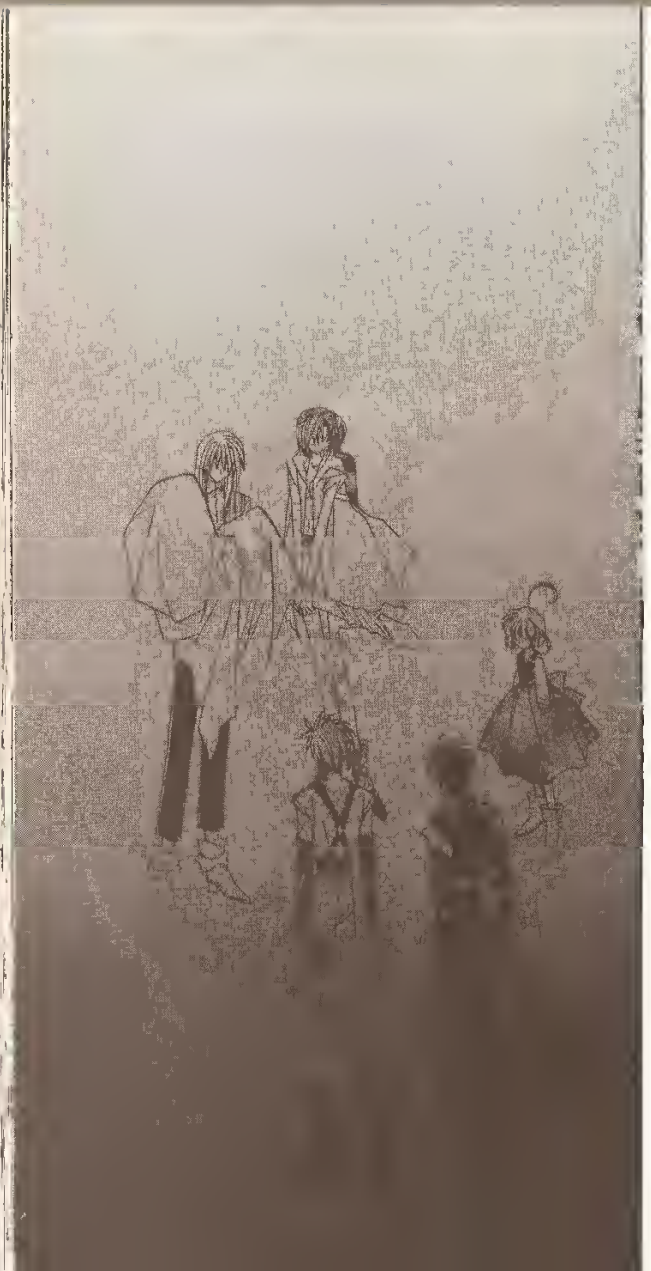

I WAS NEVER ABLE TO CONTROL MY POWER LIKE THAT BEFORE.
I'M NOT SURE IF I WAS SUCCESSFUL IN TRYING TO HELP HIM.
I HOPE I DIDN'T HURT HIM IN THE PROCESS.


THIS ROOM...
YAZ
DOES IT
ALLOW Y
TO SEN
WHAT
GOING
OUTSID

.....
LIM...
!!
WHAT DO I DO?
HEH HEH...
LORD NADIL...
HE IS WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
DOES HE KNOW WHAT I DID?
HIS...

Hi.4
WHY ARE YOU POINTING AT ME?
.....
O-OVER THERE.
LETS GO CHECK IT OUT.
BUT WHAT IF IT'S A DEMON?!
DID YOU FORGET WHERE WE ARE?
WHAT? I'M FEELING...
COULD IT BE?
WHOA!
AAAAH!
WHAT WAS THAT?!
.....
.....

RUNE...
THE SEA OF... BREAD?
NOT BREAD! DEAD! I SAID SEA OF THE DEAD!
OH... TINTLET...
YOU JUST ENDED UP HERE? IN NADIL'S CASTLE?! HOW DID YOU GET ACROSS THE SEA OF THE DEAD?
I DON'T KNOW. SOMEHOW WE JUST ENDED UP HERE.
UH... HI?
KITCHEL, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
.....
OMIGOD! RUNE, IS IT REALLY YOU?!



SEVEN OF US. EVERYONE EXCEPT CESIA
EIGHT OF US.
NO...
EIGHT?
WHO YOU GOT UNDER THE SHEET?
LOOKS LIKE THE GANG'S ALL HERE.
WHA?!
OH...
HUFF
SHHH!!!
WHOA...
WHAT THE HECK ARE ALL OF YOU DOING HE--

WHERE AM I?
OH, DEAR GOD...
WHERE IS THIS?
RUNE...
IS IT THAT DEMON GIRL?
YES.
SHE'S NOT WELL.
I THINK I CAN HELP HER.
UH, RUNE?
WHY ARE YOU HELPING A DEMON? YOU'RE A DRAGON KNIGHT. YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO KILL DEMONS.
DEMON GIRL?

A DEMON?!

WHY?
WHY WOULD YOU SAVE A DEMON?!
GUARD
!
SHE'S THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR SEPARATING TINTLET'S BODY FROM HER SPIRIT.
YES, YOU KNOW HER.
SHE WAS THE LITTLE DEMON WHO DISGUISED HERSELF AS TINTLET.
IT WAS...
...UN-FORGIV-ABLE.
BUT SHE ALSO SAVED MY LIFE.
SHE TRIED TO KILL YOU, RIGHT?
AND WHAT SHE DID TO TINTLET...
..WHO NOW NEEDS OUR HELP.
IT IS THAT DEMON...
YES, I REMEMBER.

SHE DOESN'T SOUND LIKE A POWERFUL DEMON.
BUT IT SEEMS THAT HI ABILITY
...TO MAINTAIN THAT FORM HAS BEEN DESTROYED.
SHE'S BEEN UNDERGOING SOME SORT OF TRANSFORMATION.
IT'S CORRUPTING HER SPIRIT ALONG WITH HER BODY.
RUNE, YOU'RE NOT MAKING ANY SENSE!
BUT SHE'S A DEMON! WASN'T SHE THE ONE WHO ENDANGERED YOU IN THE FIRST PLACE?!
SHE SAVED YOUR LIFE?
I CAN'T ABANDON HER.
YES...
SHE ORIGINALLY HAD HUMAN FORM.
RUNE...
...YOU SAID SHE'S NOT WELL.
SCHING

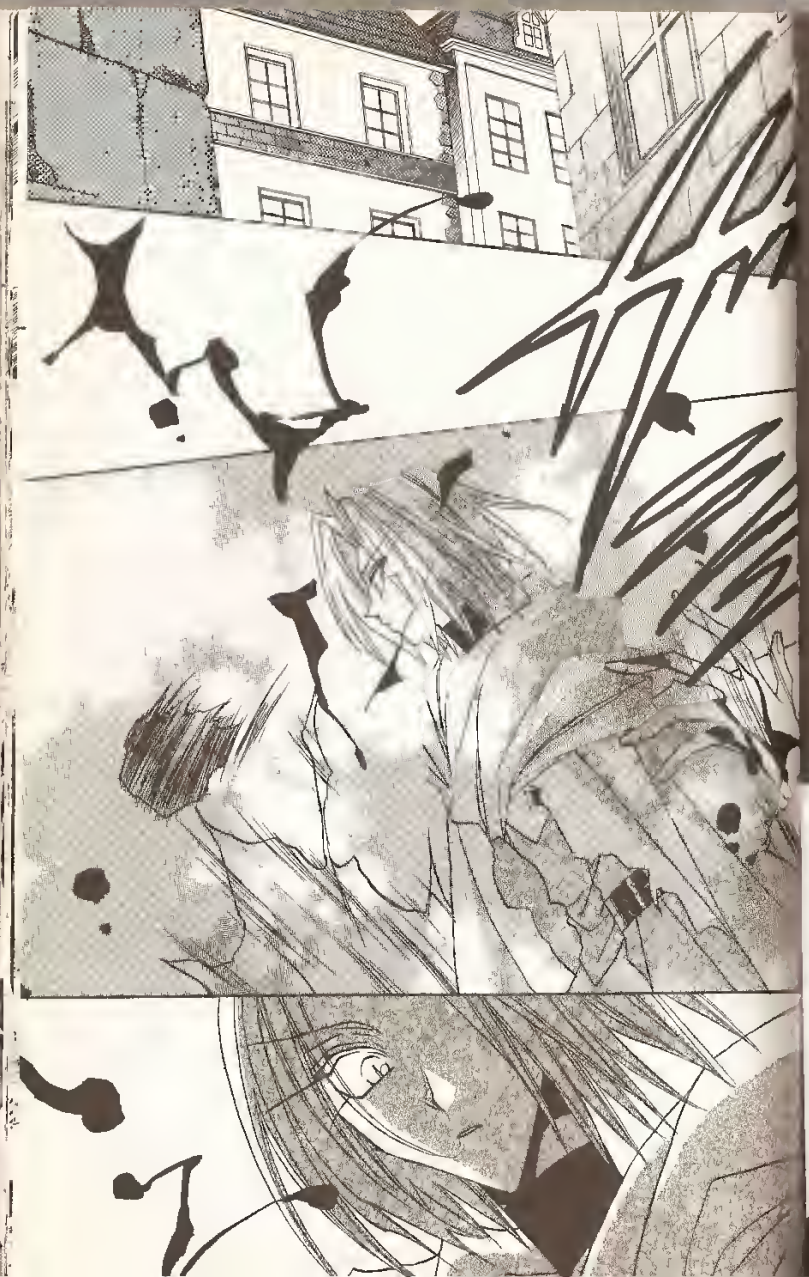
TINTLET?
IT APPEARS THAT HER POWER...
...IS NOT SELF-SUSTAINING. IT COMES FROM AN OUTSIDE SOURCE.
SO WE COULD EASILY REPLACE HER DEMONIC POWER WITH THE POWER OF VIRTUE.
NOT REALLY. I DON'T FEEL DEMONIC POWER WITHIN HER...
...THOUGH I *DO* FEEL THE REMNANTS OF SOMETHING.
WOULDN'T THAT MAKE HER EVIL?
HOLD ON. THE DEMON WE'RE TALKING ABOUT IS THE SAME ONE WHO ATTACKED US, RIGHT?
THAT'S WHY YOU WANT TO SAVE HER?
.....
ヨシ!
YES...BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW.

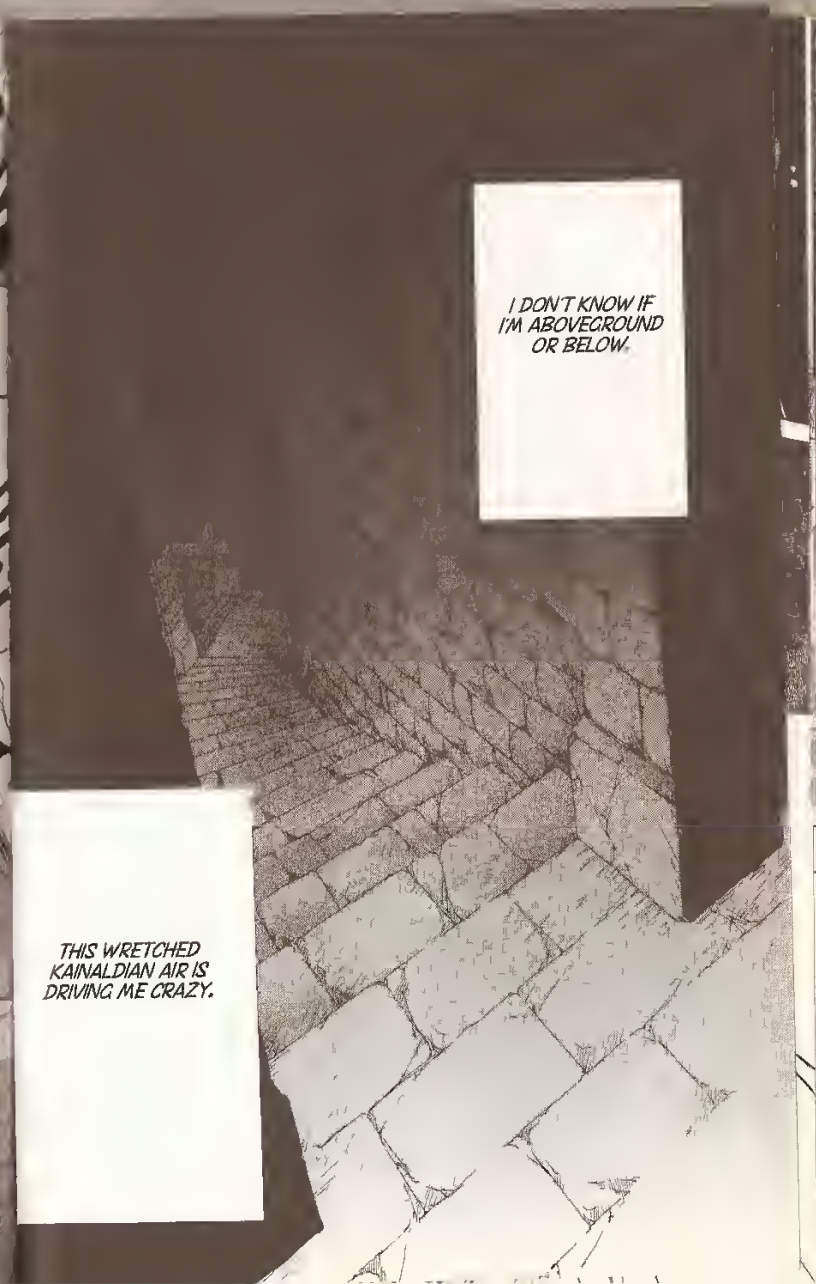
RIGHT...
WELL, IT SOUNDS GOOD TO ME.
IF SHE'S NO LONGER A DEMON, YOU WON'T NEED TO KEEP AN EYE ON HER. AND I WON'T BE TEMPTED TO KILL HER.
BESIDES...
TINTLET, SHE STOLE YOUR MEMORY.
ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO HELP HER?
...USING THE POWER OF VIRTUE?
DO YOU THINK WE CAN REVIVE HER...

I BELIEVE YOU ABOUT THIS DEMON RUNE.
DO IT...
...IF THAT IS WHAT YOU WANT.

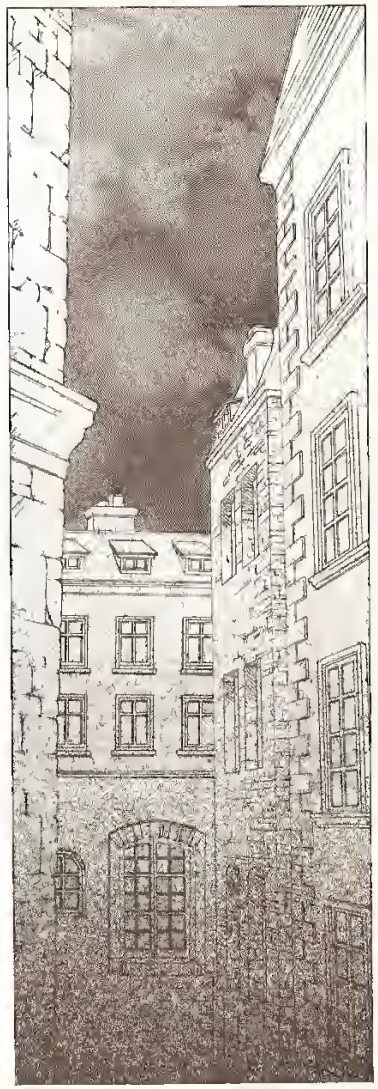
...I'VE BEEN ABLE TO CLEARLY SENSE CESIA'S PRESENCE FOR SOME TIME NOW.
OR RATHER, I HAD BEEN ABLE TO. I DON'T SENSE HER ANYMORE.

THE DEMONIC POWER IS GETTING STRONGER AND STRONGER...
I'M FRIGHTENED.
GOING UP... AND DOWN...
DARK BLACK STAIRS...




I DON'T KNOW IF I'M ABOVEGROUND OR BELOW.
THIS WRETCHED KAINALDIAN AIR IS DRIVING ME CRAZY.

BASTARD!
HOW CAN YOU SLAUGHTER MY DOLLS SO CALLOUSLY?!
THEY'RE HUMAN DOLLS. THEY USED TO BE ALIVE!

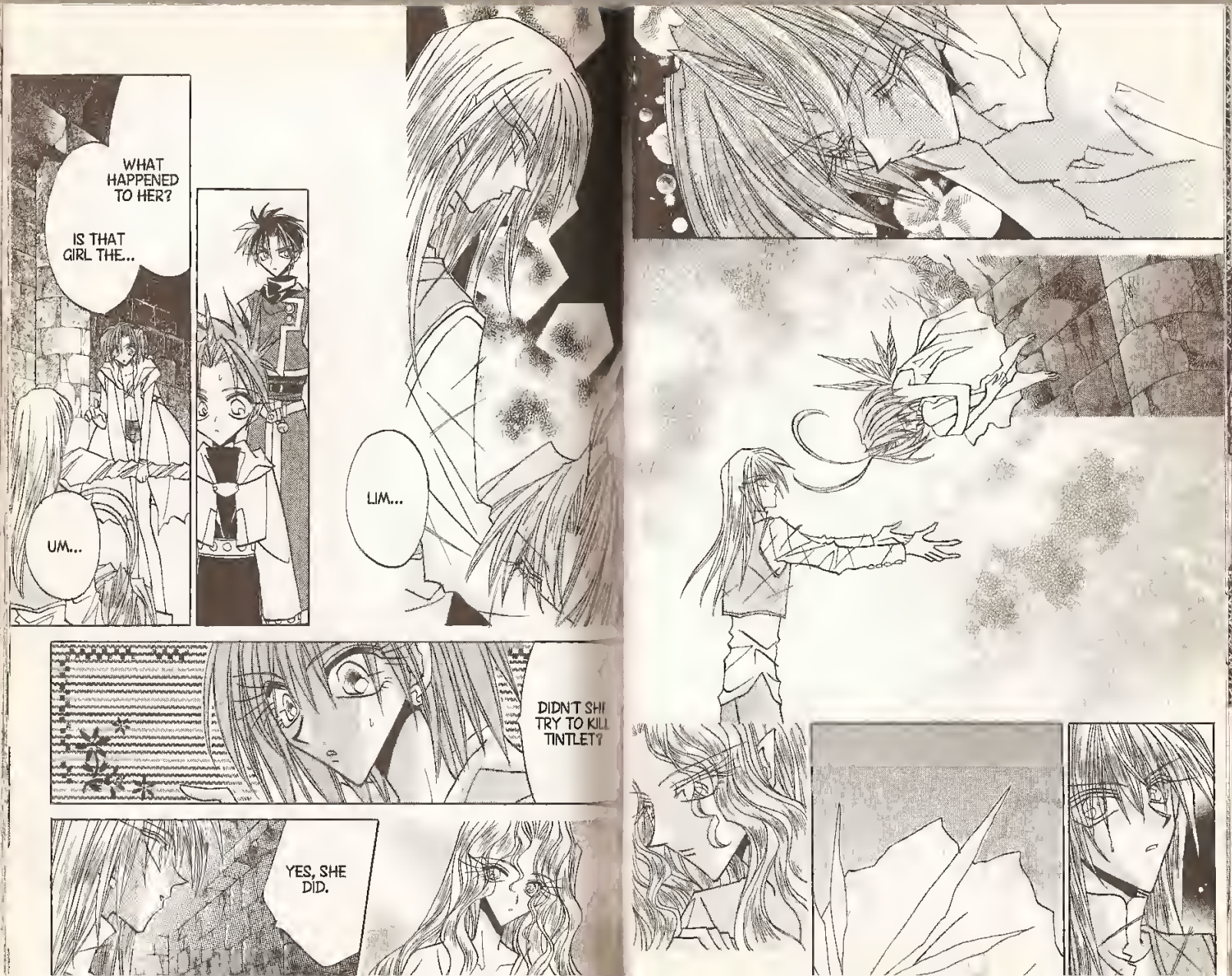


DRAGON CLAN SCUM!
HOW DARE YOU SAY SUCH THINGS TO ME?!
WHUM
A TAD BIT OPTIMISTIC, DON'T YOU THINK?
Hmph!
YOU'RE PATHETIC, DEMON.
WERE YOU ACTUALLY TRYING TO GET SYMPATHY FROM ME?
THAT'S RIGHT.
THEY *USED* TO BE ALIVE.

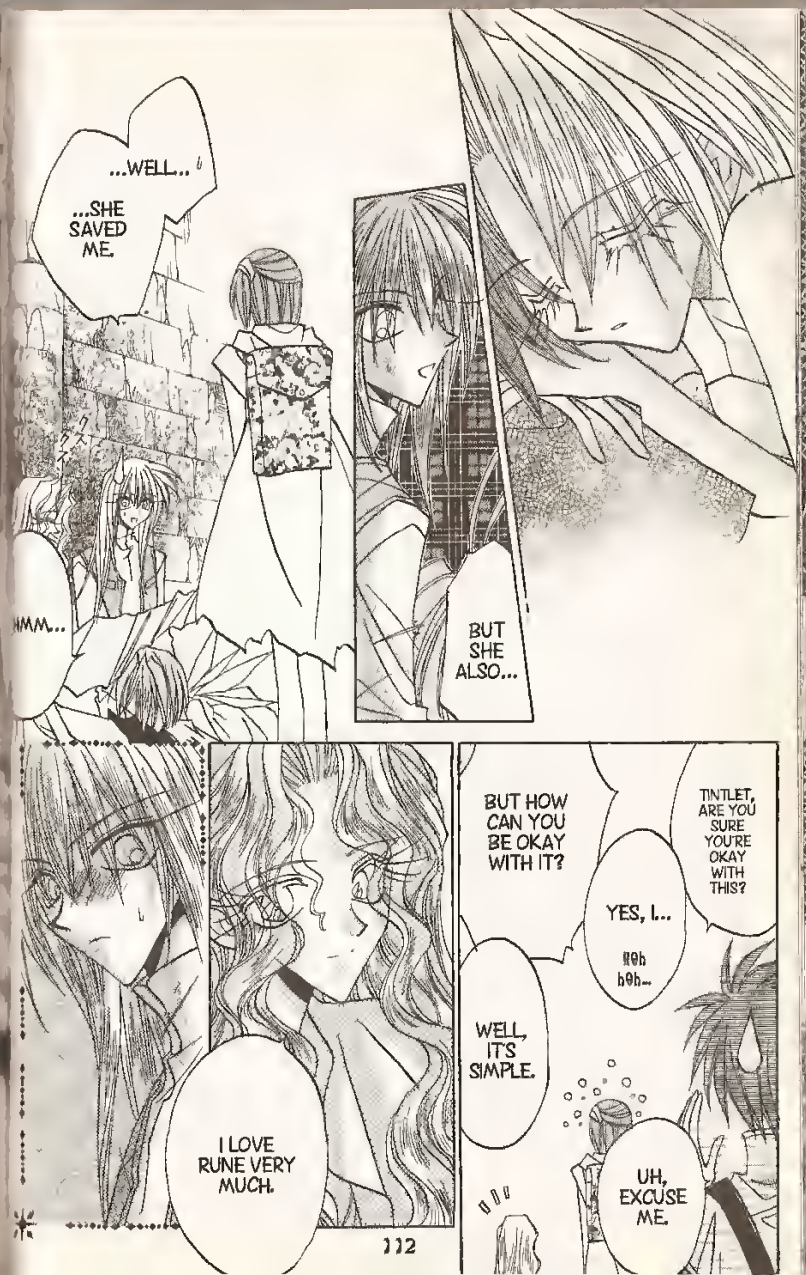
SLASH
DAMN YOU!
I DESPISE EVERY MEMBER OF YOUR WRETCHED CLAN!
CLANG

WHUMP!
UGH...
WHO ARE YOU TO JUDGE ME?!
BASTARD!
FILTHY DRAGON CLAN SLIME!
YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO SPEAK LIKE THAT.

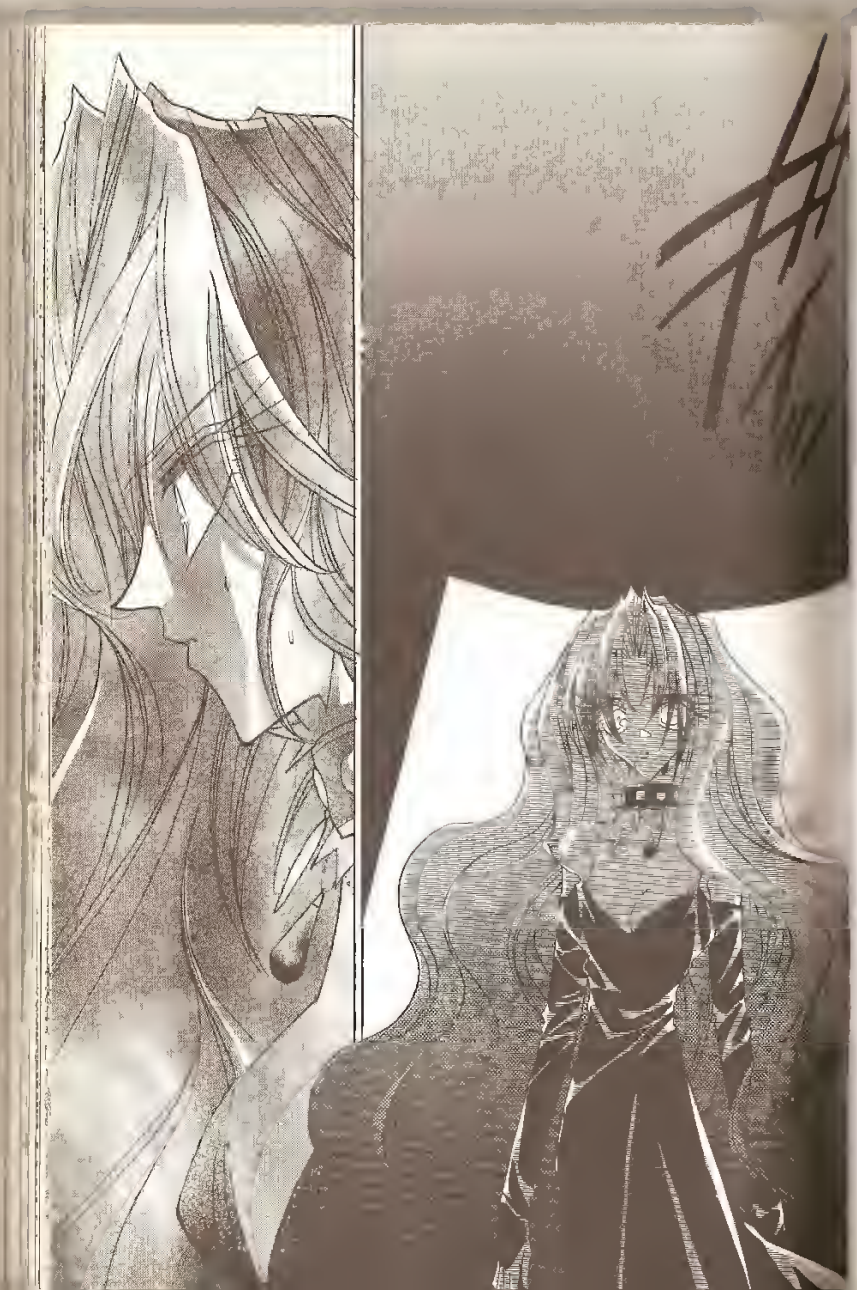
HOW IS SHE REVIVING WITHOUT ANY DEMONIC POWER?
THE DEMON GIRL...


WHAT HAPPENED TO HER?
IS THAT GIRL THE...
UM...
LIM...
DIDN'T SHI TRY TO KILL TINTLET?
YES, SHE DID.

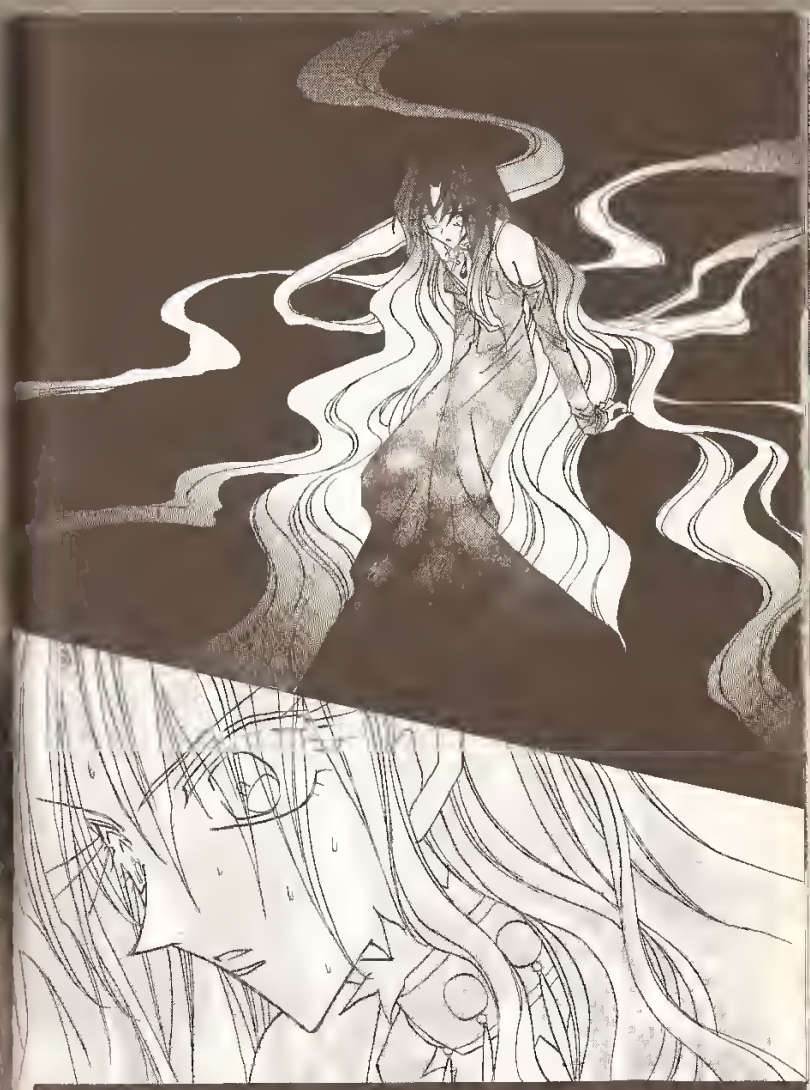
WILL YOU CUT IT OUT?!!
Who are you calling old?!
She must be into older men.
Who knew Rune was such a lady-killer?
WOW
WHAT IS THIS? EVERYBODY PICK ON THE ELF DAY?!
Tintlet, are you sure you're feeling all right?
I'M SPEECHLESS
DOES THIS MEAN...
...SHE'S NOT A DEMON ANY-MORE?
I THINK...
...IT'S SAFE TO ASSUME THAT.


...WELL...
...SHE SAVED ME.
HMM...
BUT SHE ALSO...
I LOVE RUNE VERY MUCH.
BUT HOW CAN YOU BE OKAY WITH IT?
TINTLET, ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE OKAY WITH THIS?
YES, I...
WELL, IT'S SIMPLE.
UH, EXCUSE ME.

THERE'S JUST ONE PROBLEM.
WHAT ABOUT TINTLET'S MEMORY?
IT'LL BE OKAY.
I'LL BE FINE AS LONG AS I CAN HOLD RUNE IN MY MIND.
OH, BUT WAIT...
THAT'S RIGHT.
WE STILL NEED TO DEAL WITH THE WATER OF CHANGE ISSUE.
RIGHT NOW, THAT GIRL IS THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS ANYTHING ABOUT IT.
AM I RIGHT?
THAT WATER'S IMPORTANT.
ISN'T IT CAPABLE OF GIVING TINTLET HER MEMORY BACK?
UGH...
AAAARGH!
HUH?
WHOA!!



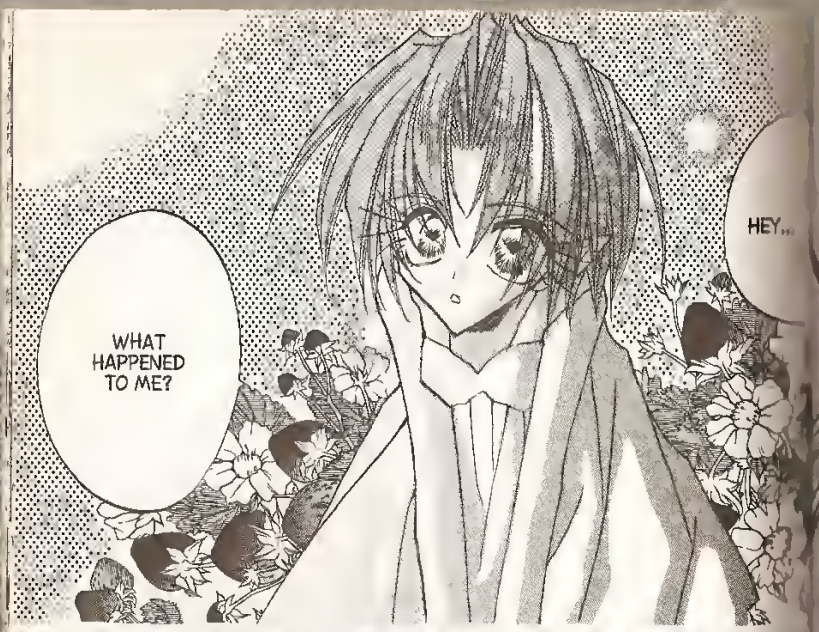
WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
HOW DID I GET HERE?
WHO'S THERE?! SAY SOMETHING!
NOT EXACTLY SURE WHAT I EXPECT HIM TO SAY...
DAMN YOU! TELL ME WHERE I AM!!
BAM!!
CREAK

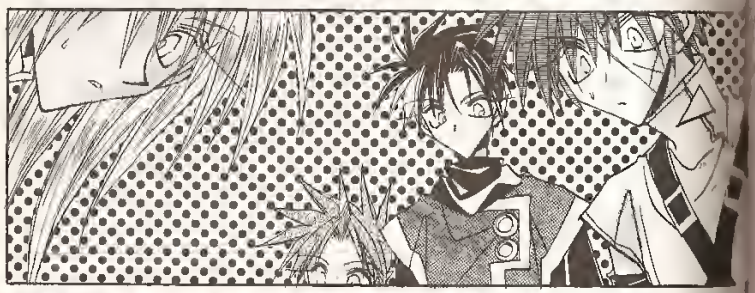


WAIT A MINUTE...

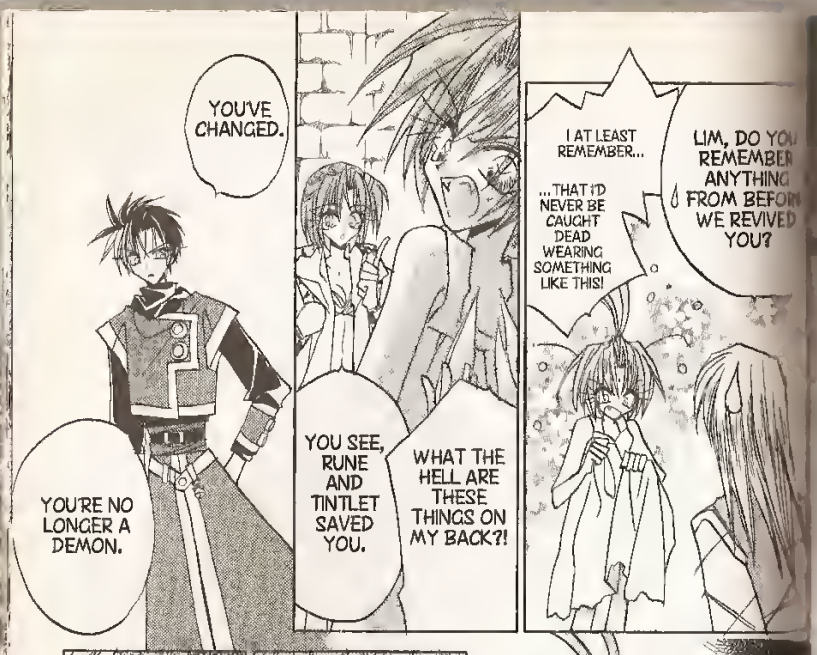
I'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE!
A LONG TIME AGO!

AGH!
AAARGGH!
AKI?
AKI?
WITH HIS BARE HANDS?
.....
INTERESTING... YOU DON'T FIGHT LIKE A HUMAN.
YOU'VE BECOME SO FRENZIED, YOU LET DOWN YOUR GUARD.


HEY...
WHAT HAPPENED TO ME?

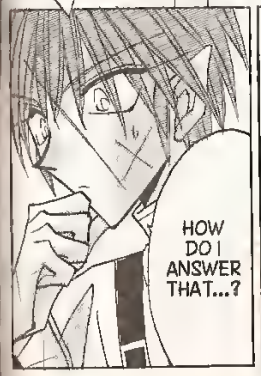


WHERE'S THE WATER OF CHANGE


YOU'VE CHANGED.
YOU'RE NO LONGER A DEMON.
YOU SEE, RUNE AND TINTLET SAVED YOU.
WHAT THE HELL ARE THESE THINGS ON MY BACK?!
I AT LEAST REMEMBER...
...THAT I'D NEVER BE CAUGHT DEAD WEARING SOMETHING LIKE THIS!
LIM, DO YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING FROM BEFORE WE REVIVED YOU?

IT'S TRUE...
...WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT.
Hmph!

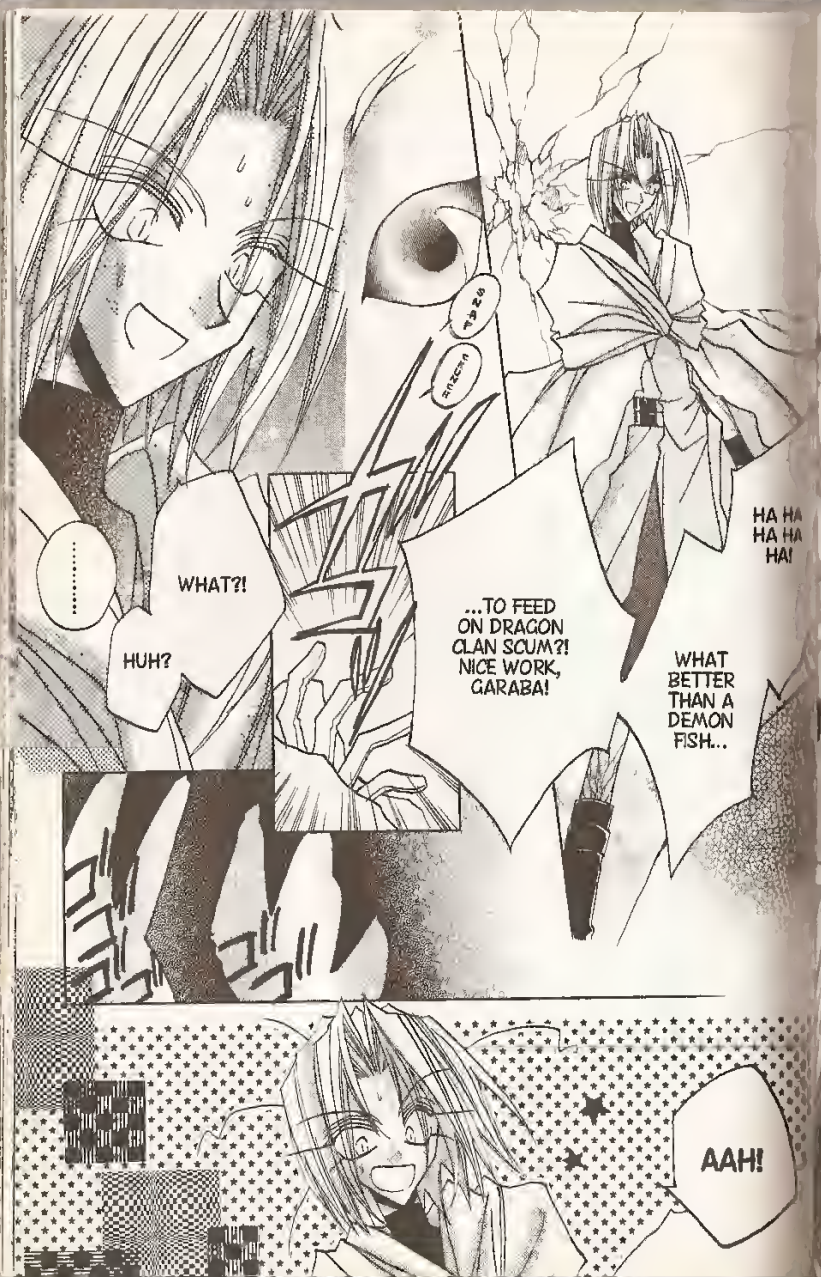
HEY!
WHOOSH
Huh?
Ugh...


HOW DO I ANSWER THAT...?

WHO ARE YOU?!

I USED TO LIVE HERE, REMEMBER?
WHY NOT
LIM!
IT'S NOT ABOUT THAT.
OKAY, I REALIZE SHE'S NOT A DEMON ANYMORE, BUT DO YOU MIND IF I KILL HER ANYWAY?
TINK
STAY AWAY FROM ME!
LIM!
!!
YOU CAN'T RUN OFF!
UH...
NO...
... LIM.
I CAN'T EVEN WALK IN THESE THINGS.
WHAT BOTHERS ME THE MOST ARE THESE AWFUL CLOTHES.
AT LEAST TELL US ABOUT THE WATER OF CHANGE BEFORE YOU GO! HEY!!

GARABA!
SWALLOW HIM!

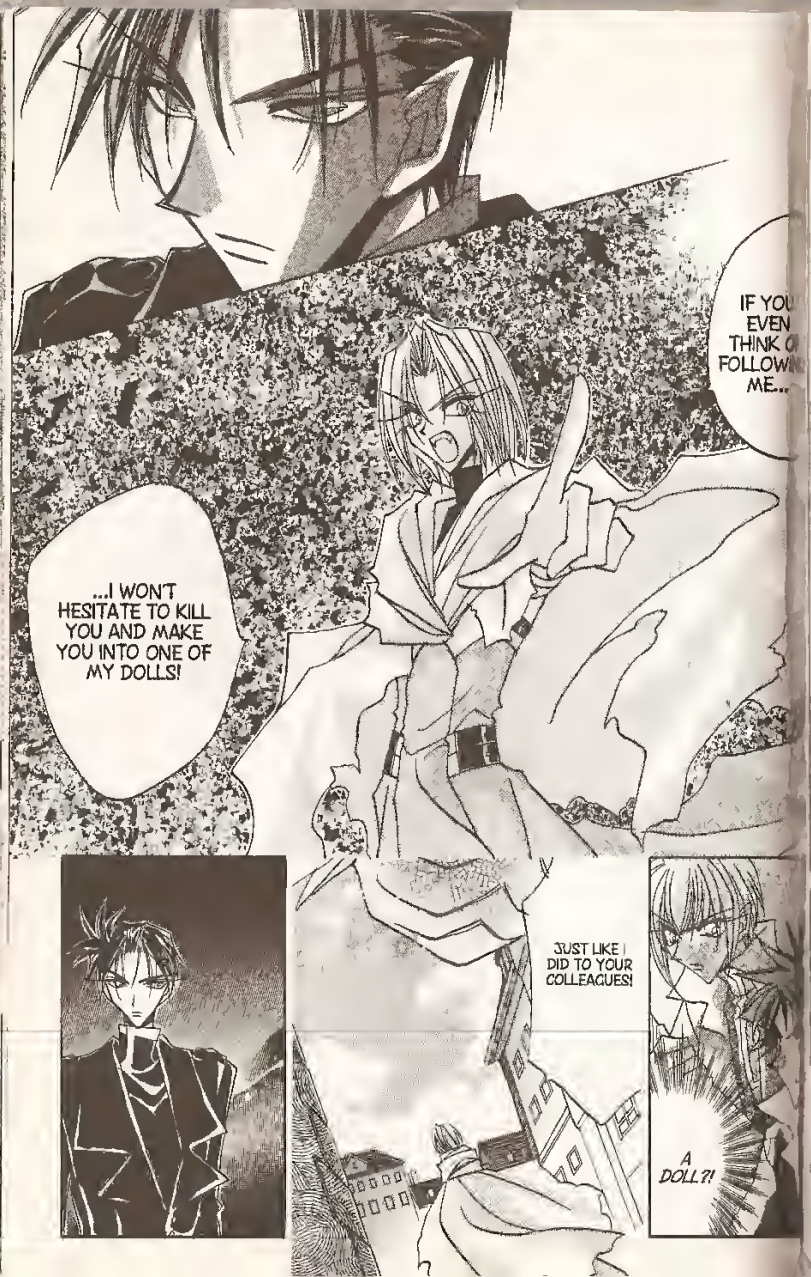

.....
WHAT?!
HUH?
...TO FEED ON DRAGON CLAN SCUM?! NICE WORK, GARABA!
HA HA HA HA HA!
WHAT BETTER THAN A DEMON FISH...
AAH!

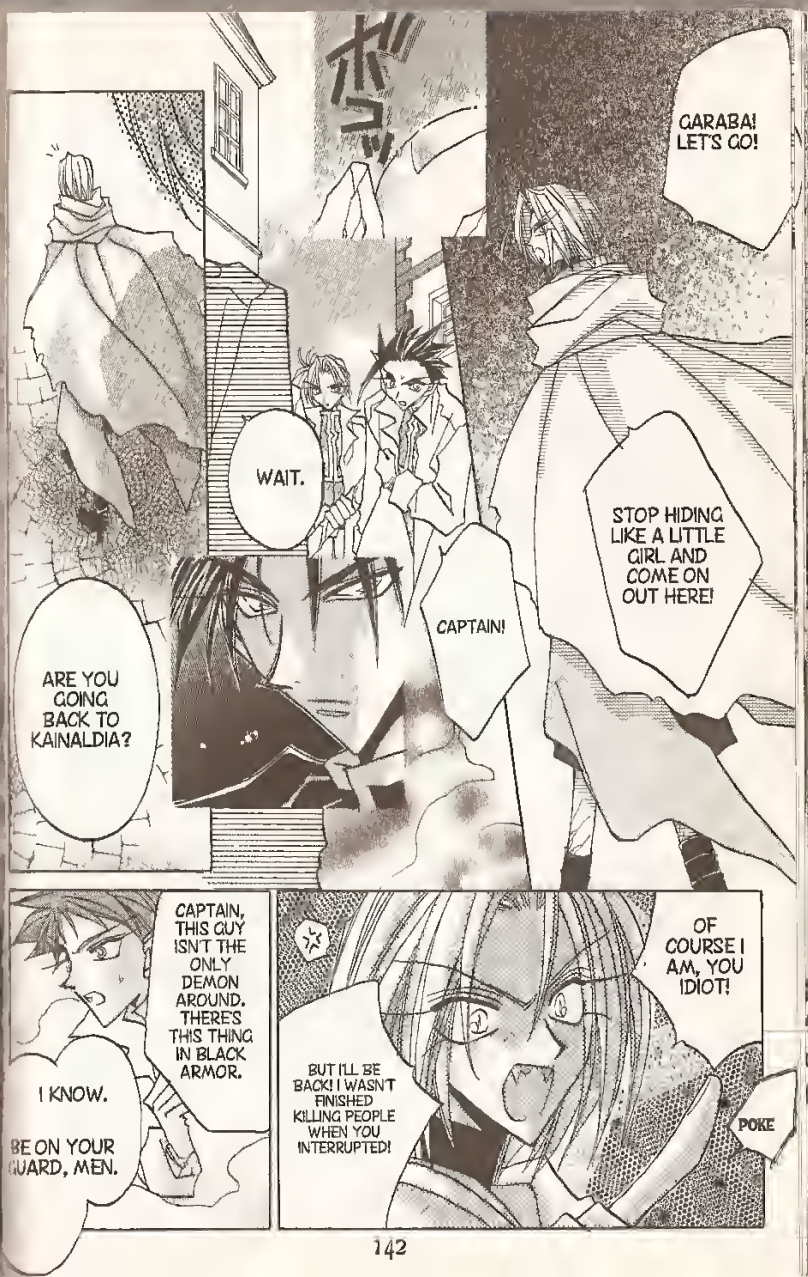
YEAH!

I DON'T BELIEVE THIS!
UHH...
ULP!
BARE HAND?
JUST A THOUGHT...
...BUT YOU MAY WANT TO THROW THIS FISH BACK.
UGH.
SCHING
DRAGON CLAN.
DIDN'T I TELL YOU THAT?
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?

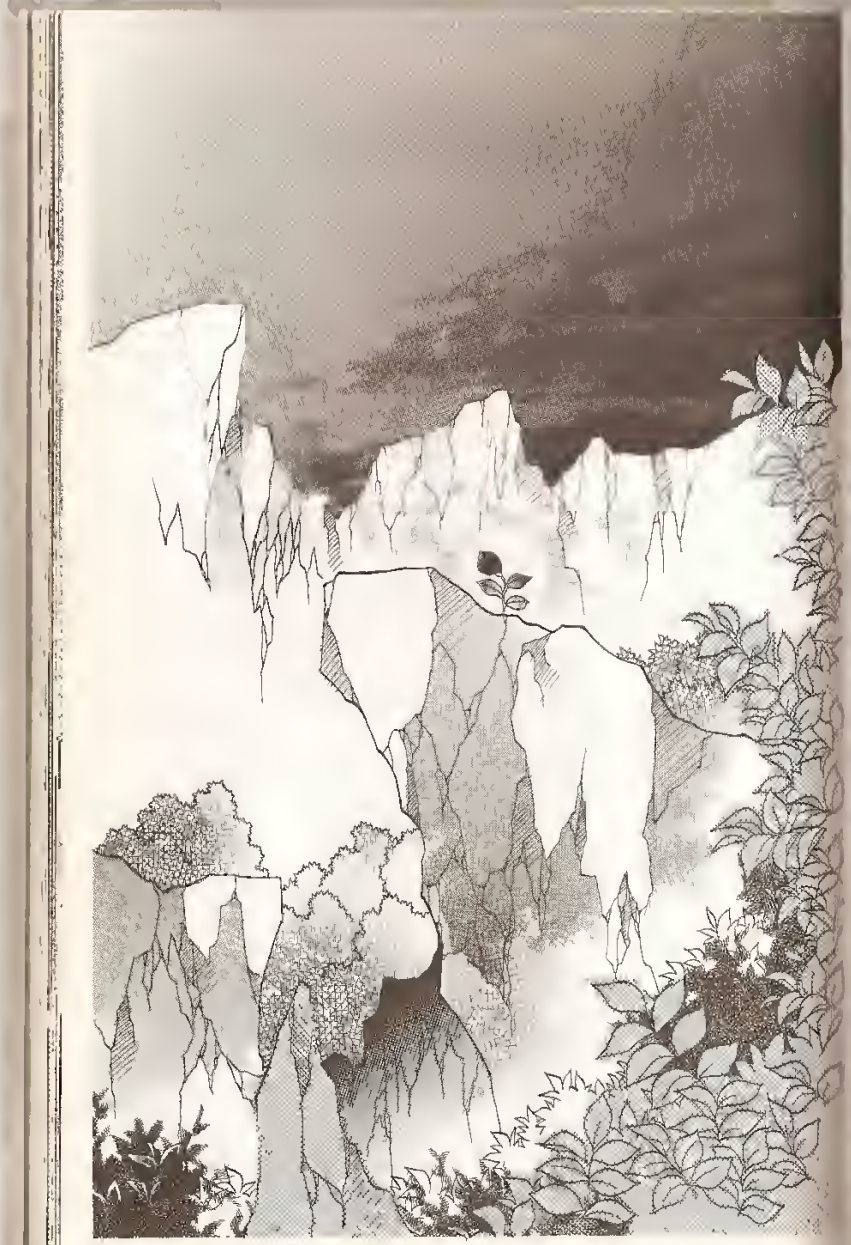
I COULD DESTROY YOU IF I REALLY WANTED TO...
...BUT YOU'RE NOT WORTH IT. YOU BORE ME.
!
I'M GOING HOME!
WHAT THE HELL BUSINESS IS IT OF YOURS, HUMAN?!
!!
ARE YOU RUNNING AWAY?!
.....
YOU SEE, IT'S MY MISSION TO DESTROY DEMONS.
YOU'RE A LIAR.
.....
...BUT WHAT'S HE GONNA DO? RIP ME APART WITH HIS BARE HANDS?
THIS GUY MEANS BUSINESS...
SHIT.
EH... TO HELL WITH YOU.

STAY WHERE YOU ARE.
HUH?
YOU AND THIS ENTIRE STINKIN' TOWN CAN KISS MY DEMON ASS!


IF YOU EVEN THINK O FOLLOWI ME...
...I WON'T HESITATE TO KILL YOU AND MAKE YOU INTO ONE OF MY DOLLS!
JUST LIKE I DID TO YOUR COLLEAGUES!
A DOLL?!

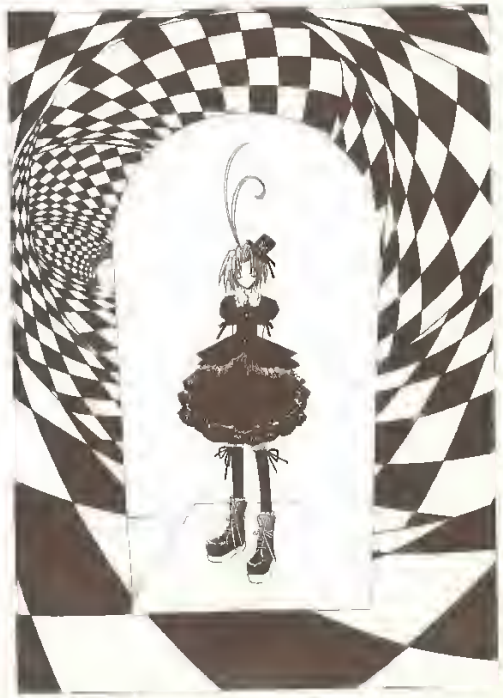

ボゴッ
GARABA! LET'S GO!
WAIT.
STOP HIDING LIKE A LITTLE GIRL AND COME ON OUT HERE!
CAPTAIN!
ARE YOU GOING BACK TO KAINALDIA?
CAPTAIN, THIS GUY ISN'T THE ONLY DEMON AROUND. THERE'S THIS THING IN BLACK ARMOR.
I KNOW.
BE ON YOUR GUARD, MEN.
OF COURSE I AM, YOU IDIOT!
BUT I'LL BE BACK! I WASN'T FINISHED KILLING PEOPLE WHEN YOU INTERRUPTED!
POKE

.....
THOSE THINGS ON HER BACK LOOKED LIKE WINGS.
スタ!!
I TRIED MY BEST.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT US, CAPTAIN.
THAT ASSHOLE DOESN'T SEEM THAT TOUGH.
AND YET HE WALKED AWAY WITHOUT A SCRATCH.
DO NOT UNDER-ESTIMATE HIM.
THAT'S JUST THE CAPTAIN'S STYLE!
ヒソヒソ
DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT WAS HIS BEST?
ヒソヒソ
.....
.....
ヒソヒソ
HE DIDN'T LOOK LIKE HE WAS TRYING VERY HARD.
ヒソヒソ
ヒソヒソ
FOLLOW THEM.
JUST DON'T GET NOTICED.
YOU'RE DISMISSED.
YES, SIR!
ヒソ!!



I'm a thief. And Tinkiet can use her faerie magic.
IT'S DANGER-OUS.
DON'T WORRY. WE'LL BE ALL RIGHT!
IT'S PROBABLY A LOT MORE DANGEROUS TO STAY IN A LARGE GROUP LIKE THIS.
WE'LL GO AFTER LIM KAANA.
YOU GUYS GO SAVE CESIA OR SOMETHING.
WHAT ARE YOU MUMBLING ABOUT NOW?
WE GOTTA GET GOING, RATH.

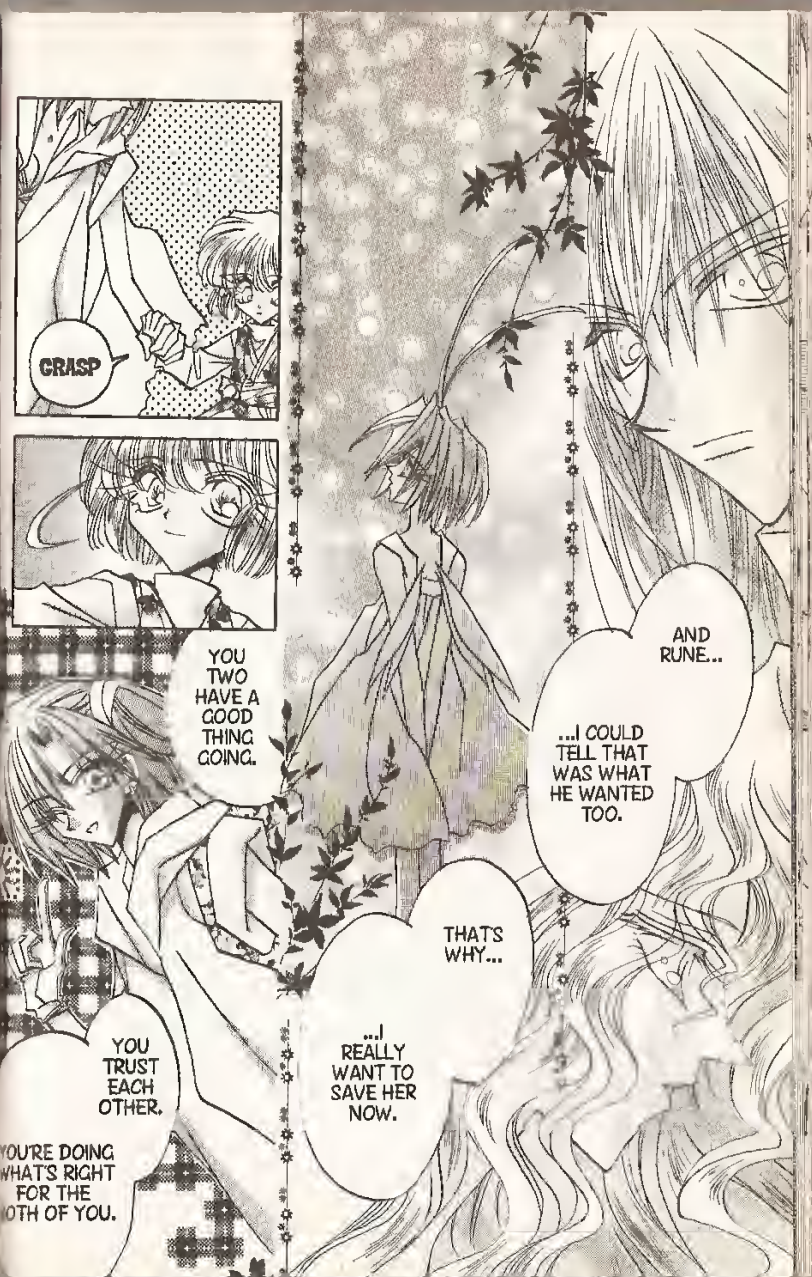
I DON'T HAVE MANY CLOTHES.
BUT I HAVE GOT TO GET OUT OF THESE UGLY THINGS.
CLICK



YOU'RE NO LONGER A DEMON.
YOU...
ITS TRUE...
WHAT IF FEDELTA FOUND ME LIKE THIS?
HE'D KILL ME.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
WHY DIDN'T RUNE TAKE BACK TINTLET'S MEMORY?
NOW I FEEL GUILTY.
BECAUSE OF HER STUPID MEMORY, I CAN'T RUN AWAY.
THE WATER OF CHANGE..
WE'VE GOT TO FIND IT, RIGHT?

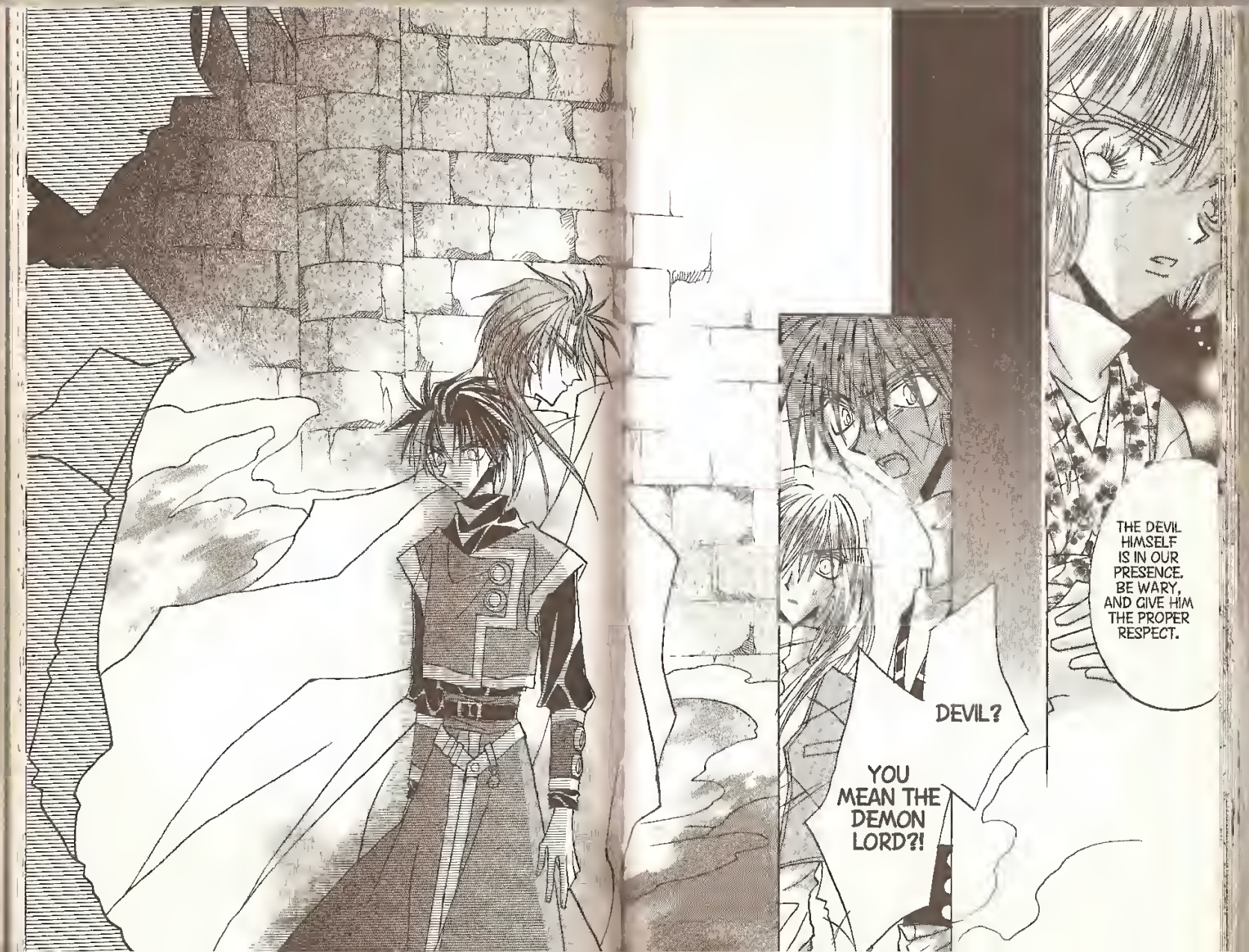
YOU WEREN'T ABLE TO RETRIEVE ALL OF YOUR MEMORIES FROM HER, WERE YOU?
I'M SORRY, TINTLET.
I GUESS SOME MEMORIES ARE BURIED TOO DEEPLY.
.....
I WANTED TO GIVE SOME OF THEM TO HER.
THAT'S NOT IT.
RUNE, BE CAREFUL.
THIS PLACE IS CRAWLING WITH DEMONS.
OKAY, WE'RE OFF.
THAT WAS QUICK!
YEAH...
I KNOW.
KITCHEL...
LIM KAANA'S WALKING AROUND HERE EMANATING FAERIE AURA.
IT'LL PUT HER IN DANGER.

I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL, RUNE...
LET'S GO.
WE'D BETTER LOOK FOR LIM KAANA.
...BUT THINK ABOUT IT.
DOESN'T IT PUT BOTH TINTLET AND LIM KAANA IN DANGER TO HAVE YOU AROUND?
THERE MUSTVE BEEN SOME REASON FOR THAT.
LIM KAANA WAS OBVIOUSLY TRYING TO KILL YOU WHEN SHE WAS A DEMON.


GRASP
YOU TWO HAVE A GOOD THING GOING.
YOU TRUST EACH OTHER.
YOU'RE DOING WHAT'S RIGHT FOR THE OTH OF YOU.
...I REALLY WANT TO SAVE HER NOW.
THAT'S WHY...
...I COULD TELL THAT WAS WHAT HE WANTED TOO.
AND RUNE..

LADY TINTLET, PLEASE USE THE POWER OF MIST.
I WILL.
POWER? WHAT POWER?
THE POWER OF MIST.
IT'LL MASK MY FAERIE AURA A LITTLE.
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE OTHERS?
BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE THIS PLACE ANY LESS DANGEROUS.
AROUND HERE, YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT.
SOME OF RINGLEY'S POWDER MUSTVE RUBBED OFF ON THEM.
WHAT REASON?
RATH...
IT'S OBVIOUSLY USEFUL...
...TO THE DEMON LORD.
IT'S VARAWOO'S POWER.
THEY NEED IT, RIGHT?

WELL SPOKEN, MY DEAR.
AROUND HERE, YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN.


THE DEVIL HIMSELF IS IN OUR PRESENCE. BE WARY, AND GIVE HIM THE PROPER RESPECT.
DEVIL?
YOU MEAN THE DEMON LORD?!

WE'VE MET BEFORE.
OR HAVE YOU ALREADY FORGOTTEN? I USED THE DEMON SAABEL AS MY CHANNELER.

RATH!

●Dragon Knights●
Side Story

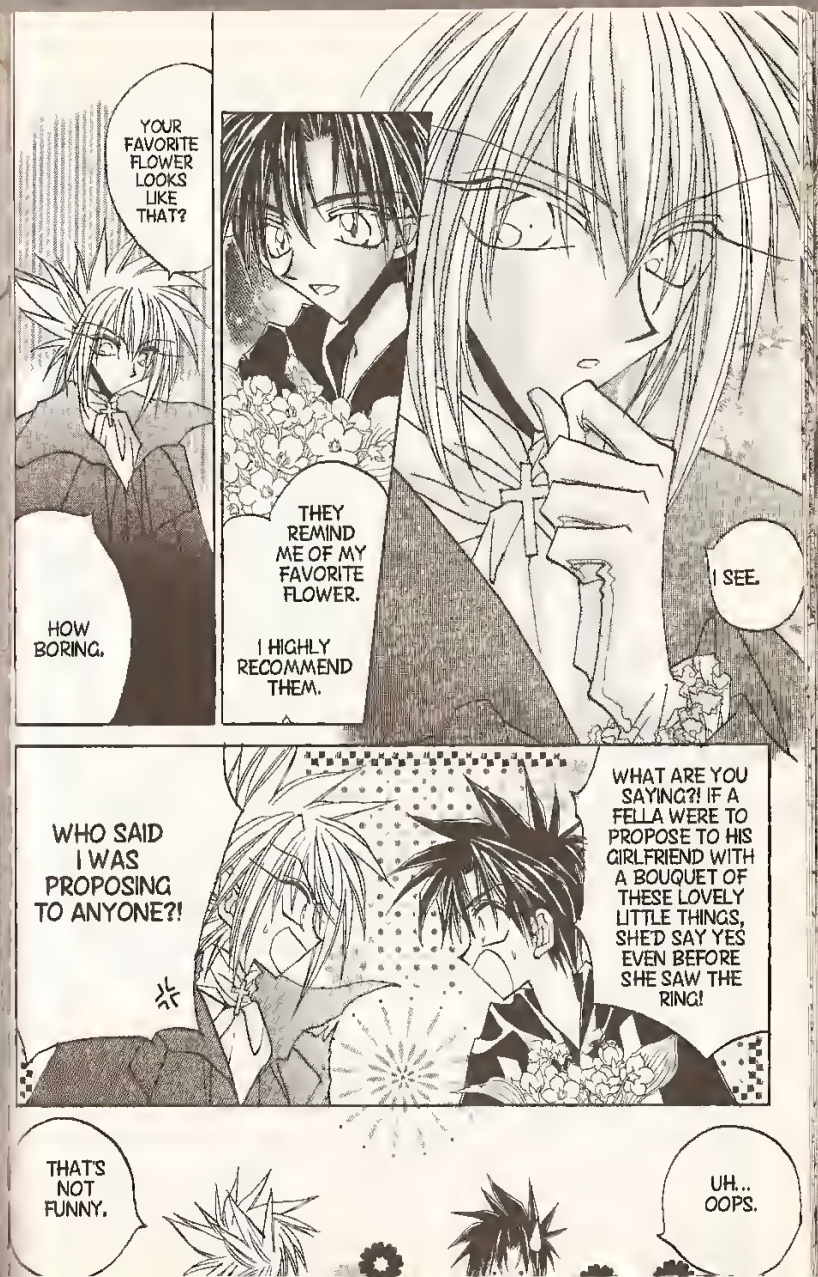
*Flower

I CAN APPEAR ANYWHERE, ANYTIME.
JUST LIKE THIS.
OTHERWISE, YOU WOULD HAVE NEVER SET FOOT INSIDE MY CASTLE.
YOU OF ALL PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW THAT, RATH.
BUT I DON'T THINK YOU DID.
Dragon Knights 18 End

ONE FINE DAY...
BYE, NOHIRO!
I'M GOING SHOPPING. I TRUST THAT THE USUAL TEA LEAVES ARE OKAY?
SURE. I'LL SEE YOU LATER.
WHATEVER YOU WANT IS FINE, MIYABI.
NOHIRO IS WORKING PART-TIME AT A FLOWER SHOP TO SAVE UP SOME MONEY FOR A TRIP.
ALL RIGHT... NOW THEN...
EXCUSE ME. I'D LIKE TO GET SOME FLOWERS.
WHAT TYPE OF FLOWER DID YOU HAVE IN MIND?
IS IT A GIFT FOR SOMEONE?
I'LL BE RIGHT WITH YOU.
OF COURSE!
A FEW MORE MINUTES AND THEN I'M ON BREAK.
AT THIS RATE, I STILL HAVE TO WORK THIS MANY HOURS BEFORE...
SIGH
ONCE I'VE SAVED ENOUGH MONEY, I'D LIKE TO GO BACK TO ARINAS AGAIN.
THIS TIME, I'LL BE SURE TO AVOID ANY PSYCHOPATHIC RENKIN WIZARDS.

NOT REALLY. I JUST NEED SOME FLOWERS.
WELL, CAN YOU GIVE ME AN IDEA OF WHAT YOU WANT?
LET'S SEE...
I WAS WANDERING AROUND AND THIS WAS THE FIRST PLACE I SAW.
THERE'S A FLOWER THAT LOOKS LIKE A LILY, BUT IS A DEEP REDDISH BLACK COLOR... LIKE A DROP OF BLOOD.
...A LEAFY PLANT WITH DARK, SHINY VINES THAT HAS A LARGE CANNIBALISTIC FLOWER THAT OPENS AND IS CAPABLE OF CHEWING THROUGH HUMAN FLESH IN...
Heh heh heh...
WE DON'T HAVE ANYTHING LIKE THAT, EITHER.
WHO WOULD WANT TO RECEIVE A BOUQUET FILLED WITH SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
LIKE I SAID, IT'S NOT A GIFT.
HOW ABOUT THIS ONE?
WHAT IS IT? LET ME SEE.
ばさ!
SALESPERSON SMILE!
IT'S WHITE WITH A FEW PURPLISH FLOWERS.
THE FLOWERS MAY BE SMALL BUT THEY LOOK REALLY PRETTY IN A BUNDLE.
THEN WHAT ABOUT...
HMM...
MAYBE IT'S EXTINCT.
MATTER OF FACT.
SORRY, BUT WE DON'T HAVE FLOWERS LIKE THAT.
ALSO MATTER OF FACT.
THE END OF THE PISTIL SPLITS LIKE A FLOWER PETAL AND LOOKS LIKE THE TONGUE OF A SNAKE.
KUS-TI-E
KUS-TI-E

WHAT IS AN OMIMAI?
IT'S WHEN YOU VISIT SOMEONE IN THE HOSPITAL AND BRING THEM FLOWERS OR SWEETS.
THESE WHITE FLOWERS WOULD BE PERFECT FOR OMIMAI.
YOU WANT ME TO ARRANGE THEM FOR YOU?
WAIT A SECOND.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
OH! THIS MUST BE FOR OMIMAI.
SO OMIMAI...
...IS A WAY OF ANNOYING SOMEONE?
RUS-TLE
RUS-TLE
RUS-TLE
I'M GONNA WRAP THESE UP REAL NICELY FOR YOU.
Achoo!
urgh...
...YOU BRING THEM FLOWERS?
WHEN SOMEONE'S SICK...


YOUR FAVORITE FLOWER LOOKS LIKE THAT?
HOW BORING.
THEY REMIND ME OF MY FAVORITE FLOWER.
I HIGHLY RECOMMEND THEM.
I SEE.
WHO SAID I WAS PROPOSING TO ANYONE?!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?! IF A FELLA WERE TO PROPOSE TO HIS GIRLFRIEND WITH A BOUQUET OF THESE LOVELY LITTLE THINGS, SHE'D SAY YES EVEN BEFORE SHE SAW THE RING!
THAT'S NOT FUNNY.
UH... OOPS.

HEY YOU! FLOWER SHOP OWNER!!
I ONLY WORK HERE PART-TIME.
LOOK! DON'T THEY LOOK BEAUTIFUL BUNDLED UP?
IS THERE ANY PARTICULAR REASON YOU RECOMMENDED THIS FLOWER TO ME?
THEY REMIND ME OF THIS DREAMY FLOWER THAT I WAS ONCE DESPERATELY SEARCHING FOR.
HOW CAN THIS BORING AND PLAIN FLOWER REMIND YOU OF ANYTHING DREAMY?
WELL, THE ACTUAL FLOWER LOOKS THE SAME, BUT SMELLS LIKE HEAVEN ITSELF.
BY THE WAY, WHY ARE YOU HANGING OUT WITH ME DURING MY BREAK?
NO REASON. I HAVE SOME FREE TIME.
DO YOU LIVE NEAR HERE?
I ACTUALLY LIVE PRETTY FAR.
NO.
NO KIDDING?
SO YOU TRAVELED ALL THIS WAY JUST TO BUY REDDISH BLACK LILIES AND DARK SHINING CANNIBAL FLOWERS?
TOTALLY ASTONISHED.
I'VE NEVER EVEN SEEN FLOWERS LIKE THAT.
YOU SHOULD SEE ABOUT STOCKING THEM.
I DON'T THINK THEY'D SELL.

HUH?
WHAT WAS HE LIKE?
DID YOU HAVE A VISITOR? THE HOUSE SMELLS DIFFERENT.
YOUR POWER OF MIST IS GETTING WEAKER. I'M GONNA POUR SOME MORE ON YOU NOW.
HE WAS A BIT STRANGE, BUT WE HAD AN INTERESTING CONVERSATION.
I WAS HAVING TEA WITH ONE OF THE SHOP'S CUSTOMERS.

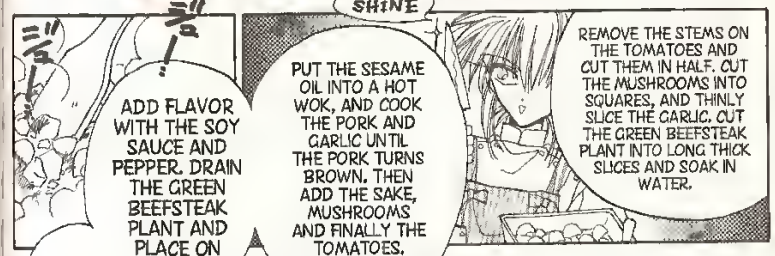
I'M HOME, NOHIRO.
MIYABI, WELCOME HOME!
LET'S HAVE SOME TEA.

THE LILY'S ROOT WILL SUCK YOUR BLOOD WHEN IT STABS YOUR FINGER. IT'S A BLACK FLOWER WITH BLOODSUCKING THORNS.
AND THERE'S THIS OTHER GREAT FLOWER THAT SCREAMS WHEN YOU PULL IT OUT OF THE GROUND.
I'VE NEVER HEARD OF ANY OF THESE!
IF YOU REALLY NEED THEM, I CAN ASK MY MANAGER IF HE CAN SPECIAL ORDER THEM FOR YOU.
Hoh hoh hoh...

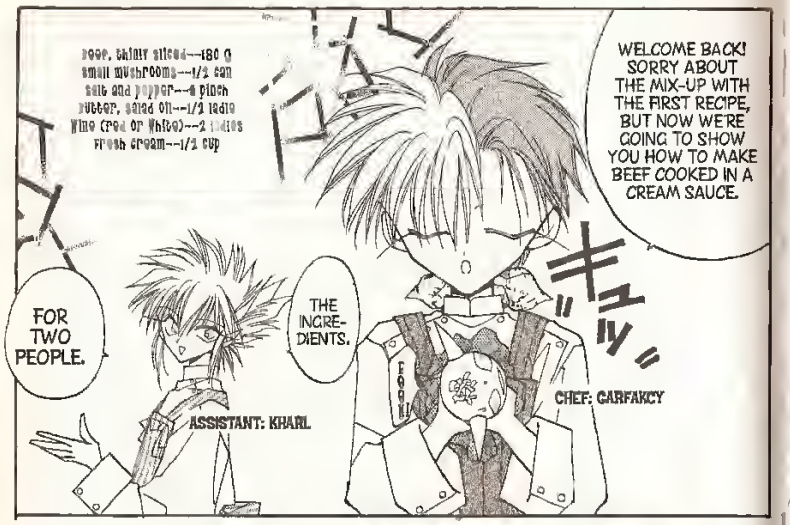
THAT REMINDS ME...
...GARFAKCY...
I SHOULD PICK UP SOME CANDY FOR HIM.
HE MAY NOT BE SICK OR INJURED...BUT IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME.
End

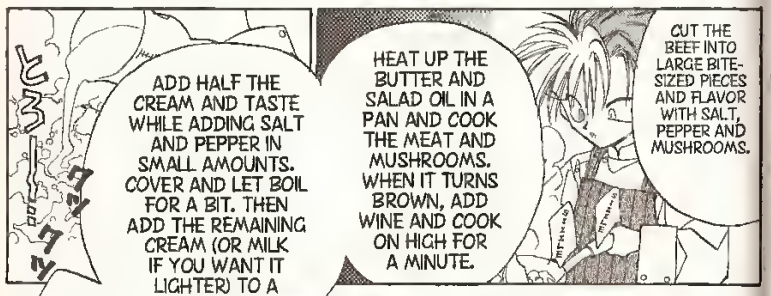
COOKING WITH KHARL AND GARFAKCY ACT 1

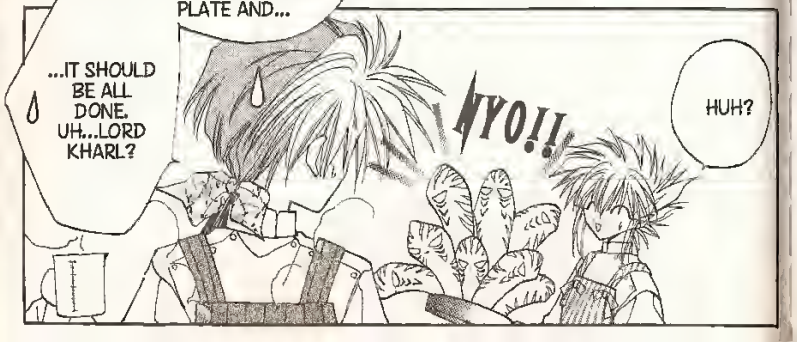
pork, square cut--120 g
ripe tomatoes--70 g
low mushrooms--3
garlic--1/2
green beefsteak plant, green
perilla--3 leaves
sesame oil, soy sauce--1
sake--half a
pinch of pepper
GREETINGS, FRIENDS AND FOODIES! TODAY, WE'RE GOING TO LEARN HOW TO MAKE A PORK AND PETITE TOMATO STIR-FRY IN JUST NINE MINUTES!
CHEF: KHARL
THESE ARE THE INGRE-DIENTS.
ASSISTANT: GARFAKCY
OF COURSE, THIS IS TO SERVE TWO.


SHINE
REMOVE THE STEMS ON THE TOMATOES AND CUT THEM IN HALF. CUT THE MUSHROOMS INTO SQUARES, AND THINLY SLICE THE GARLIC. CUT THE GREEN BEEFSTEAK PLANT INTO LONG THICK SLICES AND SOAK IN WATER.
PUT THE SESAME OIL INTO A HOT WOK, AND COOK THE PORK AND GARLIC UNTIL THE PORK TURNS BROWN. THEN ADD THE SAKE, MUSHROOMS AND FINALLY THE TOMATOES.
ADD FLAVOR WITH THE SOY SAUCE AND PEPPER. DRAIN THE GREEN BEEFSTEAK PLANT AND PLACE ON TOP.

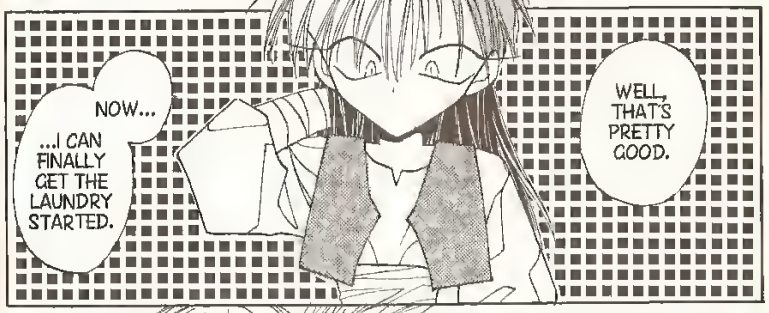
ACT 2

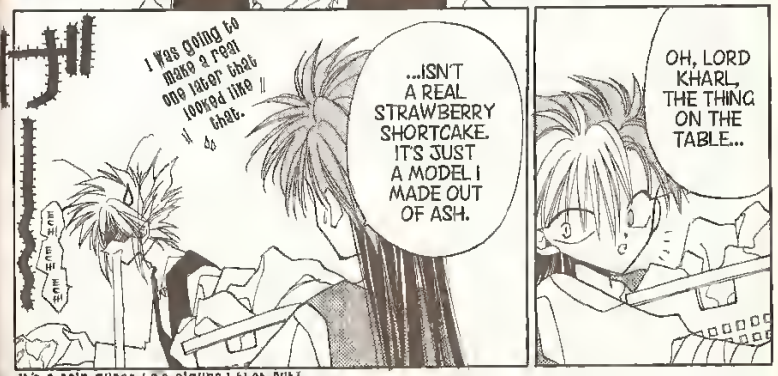

WELCOME BACK! SORRY ABOUT THE MIX-UP WITH THE FIRST RECIPE, BUT NOW WE'RE GOING TO SHOW YOU HOW TO MAKE BEEF COOKED IN A CREAM SAUCE.
beef, thinly sliced--180 g
small mushrooms--1/2 can
salt and pepper--a pinch
butter, salad oil--1/2 tbsp
wine (red or white)--2 tbsps
fresh cream--1/2 cup
CHEF: GARFAKCY
ASSISTANT: KHARL
THE INGRE-DIENTS.
FOR TWO PEOPLE.


CUT THE BEEF INTO LARGE BITE-SIZED PIECES AND FLAVOR WITH SALT, PEPPER AND MUSHROOMS.
HEAT UP THE BUTTER AND SALAD OIL IN A PAN AND COOK THE MEAT AND MUSHROOMS. WHEN IT TURNS BROWN, ADD WINE AND COOK ON HIGH FOR A MINUTE.
ADD HALF THE CREAM AND TASTE WHILE ADDING SALT AND PEPPER IN SMALL AMOUNTS. COVER AND LET BOIL FOR A BIT. THEN ADD THE REMAINING CREAM (OR MILK IF YOU WANT IT LIGHTER) TO A PLATE AND...



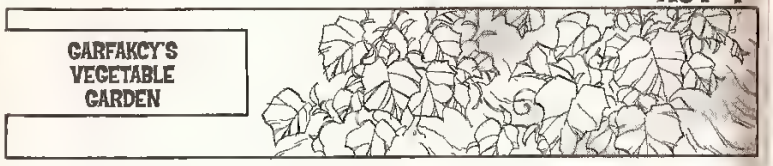
ACT 3

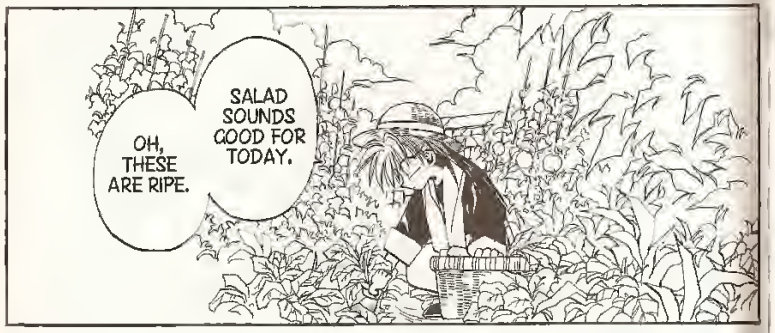


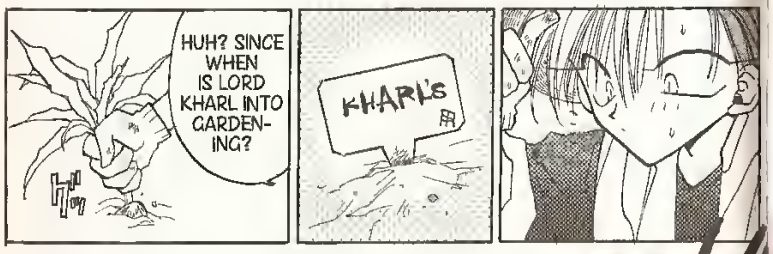

I was going to make a real one later that looked like that.
...ISN'T A REAL STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE. IT'S JUST A MODEL I MADE OUT OF ASH.
OH, LORD KHARL, THE THING ON THE TABLE...

It's a pain guess he's figured that out!

ACT 4







OH, I FORGOT ALL ABOUT THAT MANDRAKE.
This thing scared the shoe out of me! My ears are still ringing from its scream!
LORD KHARL!! DON'T PLANT FREAKY THINGS IN MY GARDEN WITHOUT ASKING!!!
すたすた
すたすた
キァァァ!
EEEEEEE!!!

See you in Volume 12, folks!

Dragon Knights™

In Volume 19:

Demons and devils and destruction, oh my! Since Nadil's resurrection, Dragon Knights fans the world over have been wondering when Rath will face his former lord again. Well, wonder no more! Over the past year, Nadil has possessed Rath into sacrificing his own life to bring forth his resurrection, been indirectly responsible for the death of Rath's closest friend, and kidnapped Rath's beloved Cesia. Now, he's face to face with the Demon Lord, and you know the outcome isn't going to be pretty. It's a bloody showdown you'll have to see to believe, and it's set to explode in the next volume of Dragon Knights!

Mineko Ohkami 19